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CONTENTS

Full Page Color Pinups	
Bret Hart	2
Kimberly	68
Miss Hancock	
Midajah	81
Torrie Wilson	83
Nitro Girls	85
Justin Credible	91





Daring Departments	
Stately States	13
Patty Therre's "On The Fringe"	
Mat Mail	62
Regional Report: Ohio	

Extreme Pictorials	
Combat Zone Wrestling	7
XPW	63

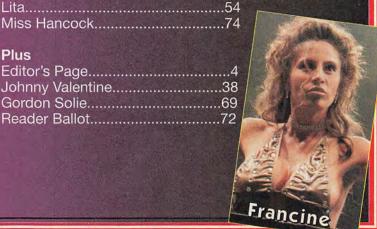
Wild Women	
Terri	.17
Stephanie McMahon-Helmsley	.18
Mae Young	.42
The Fabulous Moolah	
The Kat	
Chyna	.52
Lita	

Plus	
Editor's Page	
Johnny Valentine	
Gordon Solie	
Reader Rallot	79









EDITOR'S PAGE

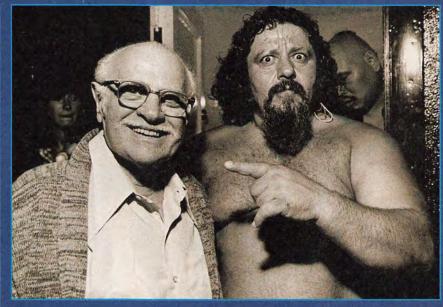
t's a Girls Night Out in the pages of Wrestling World this issue as the XPW's Kristi Myst, the ECW's Francine and Jasmine, and the WWF's Ivory all do shoot interviews with us and really really let their hair and their guard down. Furthermore, the careers of Chyna, Stephanie McMahon-Helmsley, Miss Hancock and WWF Women's Champion Lita are analyzed for your literary pleasure.

Of course, in our new more extreme format, we continue to bring you a bucket of blood from New Jersey's Combat Zone Wrestling and California's Xtreme Pro Wrestling.

Fans of The Undertaker better not miss the day we spent with him that starts on page 5. Fans of Chris Y2J Jericho will be pleased at the honor bestowed upon him on page 58.

A big thankyou to Royal Duncan and Gary Will whose incredible book, Wrestling Title Histories, has been a huge help to this magazine. You can order this book by writing to Archeus Communications, PO Box 40005, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2J 4V1. It's filled with stats on championship reigns from the entire histories of the WWF, WCW, ECW, NWA, Japan, Mexico, Canada, Britain, Australia, New Zealand and all United States independent territories. Need to settle a bet? This is the book to do it.

Enjoy all the action. And keep those cards and letters coming in. ★

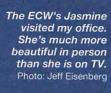


My grandfather, Irving Greenfield, with Captain Lou Albano, backstage at The Ritz Theater in Elizabeth, NJ 1981.

Photo: Ira Goodman



Vinny Cecolini (who interviews The Blue Meanie on page 20) with Diamond Dallas Page.





Mike Greenblatt

of human emotion or pain.

THE AMERICAN BAD ASS

By Patty Therre

ark Calaway, a.k.a. The Undertaker, is the longest active wrestler in the WWF today. He's gone through various transformations of his character but none more radical than his change from "The Man from the Dark Side" to "The American Bad Ass." His success is nothing short of amazing, considering his gimmick was untested and almost cartoonish when he debuted on WWF TV 11/22/90 at the Survivor Series.

Calaway began pro wrestling in '84 but it wasn't until '89 that he became a steady worker, using such names as The Master of Pain, The Masked Punisher, Texas Red, Punisher Dice Morgan and Mean Mark Callous in the USWA and WCW before landing WWF style as Kane the Undertaker, first with manager Ted Dibiase, then Brother Love, then Paul Bearer. The Kane name was dropped weeks later, thus The Undertaker was born. It was later explained Undertaker had used the Kane name in memory of his brother whom he believed perished in a fire years ago, but then mysteriously emerged in the WWF. His dark 6'10 328-pound character attempted to do what many could not: convince the fans he was an invincible zombie-like creature, not a gimmick but the real deal. To his credit, despite the sometimes surre-al storylines, Calaway managed to con-vince even the most skeptical of fans that he truly was from the "dark side," capable of inhuman feats. Although he never claimed to be "dead," his actions and the public perception were that he was a creature of the night, impervious

And the fans loved it.

When The Undertaker would sit up after a mind-boggling beating, the crowd pop would be deafening. His trademark eye-rolling and "Rest in Peace" catchphrase would last nearly a decade.

March 24, 1991. WrestleMania XII. Undertaker defeats Jimmy "Super Fly" Snuka in his first high profile match, setting him apart from other WWF new-



comers and foreshadowing his meteoric rise to stardom. The Ultimate Warrior is the next victim. The win solidifies The Undertaker as a dark force to be reckoned with.

Snagging the World Title from Hulk Hogan 11/91 in controversial fashion when Ric Flair interfered established him bigtime. Then-President Jack Tunney, though, because of the interference, called for a rematch six days later, which Calaway lost, but The Undertaker was on the map.

One of the most agile big men in the sport, he displayed both catlike grace and amazingly powerful moves. Although involved in numerous high-profile matches with Giant Gonzales, Kamala and Yokozuna, the World Title always seemed to elude him as he fought oddly gimmicked wrestlers and "big men," usually coming out on too.

Calaway's career took an unusual turn 1/92 when he saved Miss Elizabeth from a sneak attack by Jake The Snake Roberts, leading to one of the first badguy versus badguy feuds (generally not money matches). Hotly anticipated, they were extremely well received by the fans.

In 1994, the most outrageous of storylines was presented, that of a fake Undertaker. After Mr. Fuii's men slammed him into a casket at the 1994 Royal Rumble, he vowed to be "reborn." Ted DiBiase brought in Brian Lee, dressed to look exactly like The Undertaker, claiming that The Undertaker had decided to change his ways and side with him rather than Paul Bearer. Bearer exposed the fake Undertaker, bringing Calaway back to the WWF, perpetuating a feud between the two Undertakers and an Undertaker versus Undertaker match at SummerSlam '94. A triple tombstone exposed Brian Lee as the faker and firmly established Calaway as one of the first "tweeners" in the business, not a moral hero and not an immoral villain but rather an amoral

being who marched to the beat of his own drum.

After taking down the crazed Sycho Sid, Sid and Kama were no match for Shawn Michaels and The Undertaker in a wild tag bout. The Undertaker may have been invincible but Mark Calaway was not and in late 1994, his orbital bone was broken in a match with then-Mable (Nelson Fraiser). He was out of action six weeks. Undaunted, by late November, Calaway was back with a mask to protect his face and add another slight twist to his persona, defeating Bret Hart to propel him to even greater heights in the WWF. On a roll, The Undertaker, having been transformed with a new look and attitude, squashed Crush. Yokozuna, and IRS in rapid suc-

Calaway has always transformed his character in subtle ways throughout the years, changing outfits and personalities slightly. He's always been thrown into main event-type matches with such superstars as Diesel (Kevin Nash), Goldust (Dustin Runnels), Bret Hart, and Mankind (Mick Foley). Mankind was, in 1996, about as far from realistic as you can get, wearing a mask on his face, rocking in the corner of the ring, and pulling chunks of hair out his head as he waited for his opponents to start the match. By this time, wrestling fans had grown smarter and weren't buying into the unrealistic personas like Mankind and Goldust but, still, they believed in The Undertaker. Calaway, through the subtle changes in persona and attitude. was able to keep fans guessing about his character and believing that he truly was untouchable.

Paul Bearer, the on-again offagain manager, turned on The Undertaker at SummerSlam '96, effectively burying the relationship. This proved to be a good move for Calaway, who was able to break

Continued on page 56

Combat Zone Wrestling

Continues In New Jersey Against All Odds!

"Blood, Sweat & Violence"

Words by Debbie Sellnow Images by Chris Bade

tate officials haven't stopped the CZW yet! While New Jersey legislation to ban extreme wrestling awaits only a signature from the governor, Combat Zone Wrestling is holding its grip as the most extreme federation this side of hell itself! Its "Blood, Sweat & Violence" card was no exception to the CZW rule





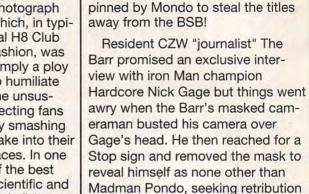


of offering fans much more than their measly \$15 worth of action. Newcomer Nate Hatred picked the wrong person to mock when he entered the arena eating the Wifebeater's trademark potato chips. After a strong dog collar match against Mercury, Wifebeater, who along with the other members of the H8 Club had taken over the broadcast booth, stormed the ring and took care of Hatred.

Smack invited the fans to be a part of a photograph which, in typical H8 Club fashion, was simply a ploy to humiliate the unsuspecting fans by smashing cake into their faces. In one of the best scientific and high-flying

matches ever in CZW--or

anywhere else, for that matter--Johnny Kashmere and Trent Acid (the Backseat Bovz) lost their tagteam

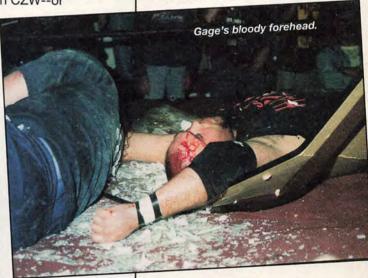


for having his Iron

ing to settle a score with the BSB,

Kashmere and had himself mock-

actually passed himself off as



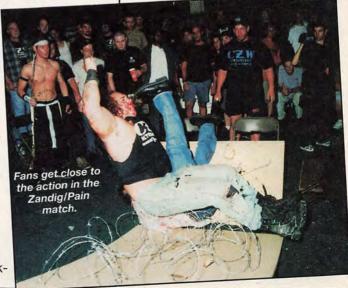
Zandig (left) and Justice Pain

Emotions were running high within the H8 Club this evening, though, as the normally vengeful group let its softer side show in celebration of the one-year anniversary of the Wifebeater (decked out in his celebration duds) and Mac Smack in CZW. After opening gifts from fans (a large wooden lavatory key, a gas pump handle and potato chips with flowing streamers), a cake was delivered and the group invited a couple of devoted fans to join in the celebration (including ECW's famed "Hat Guy"). To commemorate the event and show their appreciation,

CZW VP (and Kashmere's former partner/brother) Robby Mireno to go through with it. Fast-paced and full of incredible wrestling skill, the match was highlighted by daredevil Blade's risky Senton Bomb from above the CZW entrance area. Mireno, look-

forced by new

title to the impressive Man title stripped for no-showing at Ric Blade and Slick a match a few months back. Gage Nick Mondo. A and Pondo carved each other with rematch from the last scissors and nails taken from a mircard, the BSB wantror. The mirror was a fan-brought ed out of the Ladder contraption that had CZW written on match stipulation on it in attached nails! Pondo and Gage this one, but were



Combat Zone Wrestling

chairs, a table, a pane of glass, and three batches of florescent tube lightbulbs, and Gage super-

Lobo pins Zandig between two tableboards for the title.

(I-r) Justin Kase, a fan, Wifebeater, the "Hat Guy" and Mac Smack. Note Smack pelting "Hat Guy" with cake in the face.





removed the nails and used them as weapons! The bloody battle culminated with Pondo building a tower of

Wifebeater off the top

rope on to Zandiq.

Pondo through his own creation. Interference by yet another former Iron Man title-holder, the Wifebeater, led the match out of the ring and into the locker room, to its ultimate draw conclusion.

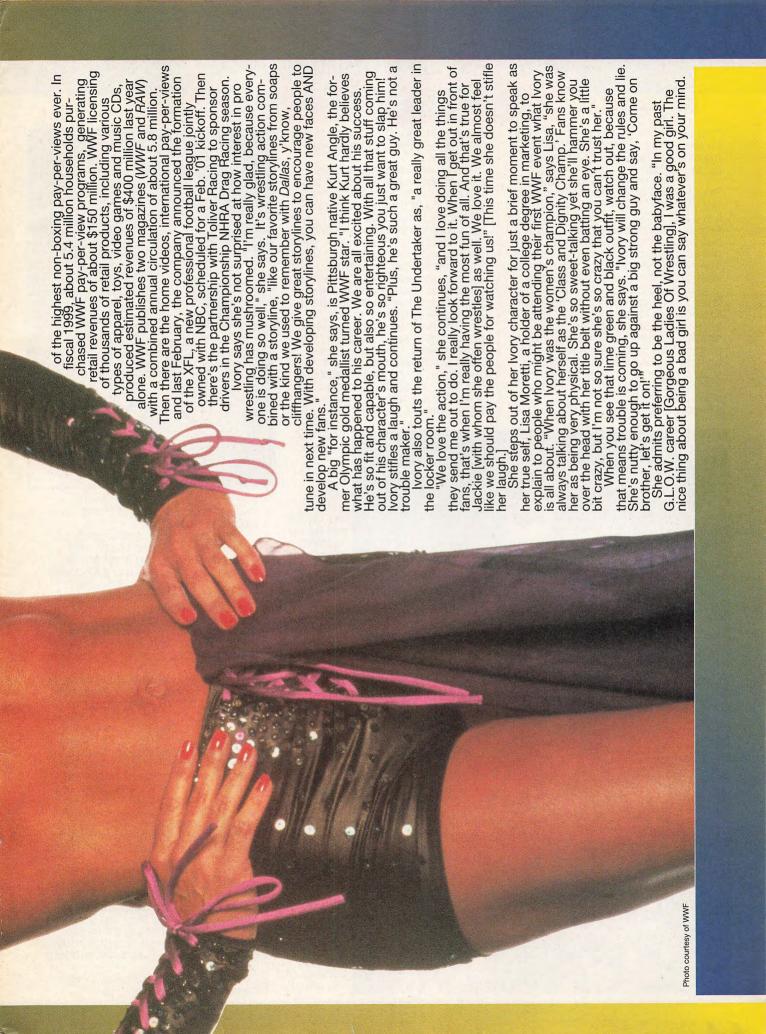
Finally, new CZW Heavyweight champ Lobo scored himself another sneaky win when he plowed into the ring after allowing Zandig and Justice Pain to beat each other senseless in a three-

Pondo carves up Gage.

H47/13/PBarbed Wire

Board & Whip Lumberjack match. Lobo did a job on both opponents, then quickly pinned a bloodied Zandig between the boards to hold on to the title.★





SHOWERING WITH IVORY

You can be really honest. You don't have to bite your tongue. You can make snide remarks." She laughs

openly again.

Her fan mail is "pretty good." She'll have her own action figure out this fall. "It's pretty neat. I don't have any kids of my own, but lots of nieces and nephews. She's my first baby doll. It has the signature purple scarf which drives the fans nuts. They hate that purple scarf because I never tell them what it's all about."

Do people boo? "I think they learn I entertain them and they like to see what I'll do for them," she says. "Fans love to relate to the characters and participate during a match. "We give them a lot to participate in. Anyone who goes to a rock concert loves to sing along to the words. Jackie and I put on a show. Sometimes we look out [into the crowd] and see fans themselves

dressed like [our] characters! I've seen signs saying, 'I showered with Ivory.'"

Women wrestlers always enjoy a non-televised show too, she says. "We don't necessarily have to be in the main storyline. Jackie and I are able to really go out and entertain the fans without the restrictions of television. We like to give them something to talk about on the car ride home. I want to be in someone's conversation when they leave that show that night. I want them talking about the Jackie and Ivory match."

The women really are gifted athletes, she says. "We don't have idiots running the show. They know pretty girls sell tickets. But everything at the WWF escalates. The talent of each performer has to escalate. Pretty faces are a dime a dozen. We could have

20,000 beautiful women come through the shows, but they still would not be up to WWF standards of female performers-lots of personality, skill and a ton of tricks stuffed down their back pockets. They expect you to pull those tricks out as the years go by. look at it this way, the female wrestlers certainly have a lot more to offer than just looks." Ivory says she

knows

when it is time to hit

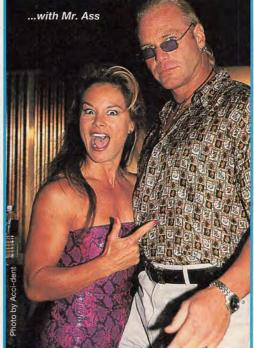
the gym for

more work.

"All you have to do

is watch yourself on

TV, and if I



see my buns are jiggling, that's enough inspiration right there," she explains, chuckling.

She enjoys the opportunity of meeting fans. "When I really feel connected to my job is when I'm meeting my fans. I never just do an autograph signing. I talk to them and meet them. If I feel like they walk away knowing me a lot better, it's a moment where you get something out of it and they get something out of it. That's why I like going to towns and performing for

fans."

It certainly helps that the time seems to be right for professional wrestling. "WWF wrestling, both on television and in live events, needs to stay in a category of its own. That's what's fun about the show. If you tune in on television, there's nothing else on TV like it. You can get as fired up about it as an NFL football game. You can watch and not know much about it and laugh and giggle at it. You don't have to take it very seriously. You don't have to get depressed watching it, like you might in watching the news

every night.

"You can get a laugh watching wrestling. There's so much that is serious in the world today. A lot of professionals and other adults are tuning in because they just want to take a load off. They want to see someone take it out on somebody. Maybe they live vicariously through

Interview conducted originally for the Gannett Newspaper chain.



STATELY STATES by Stately Wayne Manor



[Editor's Note: OK, I think we all agree this guy's a jerk. And please don't take anything he says seriously whatsoever. He's a professional liar, a cad, a scam artist and not a very nice human being. Unfortunately, he's still under contract to this magazine. Doubly unfortunately for me, he's also an extremely professional blackmail artist, and has found out certain things about my past that I would rather not have revealed at this time. So, I am put in the position of continuing to print his loathsome column.—Editor]

Poor you: the last time you saw Dad was on an America's Most Wanted broadcast; Mom's soon to appear on a game show called Who Wants To Marry A Welfare Mooch; and, you wake every morning with a breath bouquet that smells like a circus elephant camped on your tongue the night before...and "squatted" before he left. Worst of all, you had to go nine months without Stately States! Weep no more, Eleanor, the Mat Messiah has returned.

Though I may have been absent from your pathetic life, I've been busier than Mark Madden's spoon at an ice

cream truck spill. So let's examine what's going on in the wrestling world.

I suppose the WWF's highest-rising individual during our little vacation was Chris Jericho—or Y2JO, as he's known amongst his peers. Okay, I'll admit I was once a Jerichoholic; but that was before he began badmouthing sweet innocent Stephanie McMahon.

Truth be told, I don't cotton one bit to Chris Jerko dissing the darling—and it has nothing to do with how taking Stephanie's side could be my springboard to a cushy job in the WWF. That's never even crossed my mind. Check the records. Not once have I ever sucked up to the marvelous McMahons or the brilliant Bischoffs.

Now, far be it from me to start rumors, but has it ever struck you odd how Chris has done without a female manager his whole Big Two career? In fact, the other wrestlers joke, "Jericho's never gotten valeted in his entire life!"...or something like that.

Could it be Chris(tine) is a, you know, a midnight trout fisherman, a French genuflector, a left-handed banjo-picker, a pink GTO or whatever they call those sort of guys in your neck of the 'hood? Perhaps this alternative lifestyle explains why Jericoward has no problem defying mesmerizing Miss McM's orders.

There was plenty of activity in Turnertown too. Trying to save his own wrinkly hide, Hollowhead Hogan went on to form a group called the Medicare Club, the sorriest combination of losers I have yet to see—excluding the population of L.A., of course.

A lot of people know Hohum's got a musical background. And as much as I loathe Hogan, I never argue when he's debating, "Who was better, Bach or Beethoven?" After all, the codger has seen them both perform live!

Yet another Hogan hide-and-sulk session opened the door for Booger T to get a well-undeserved title shot and steal the belt from jovial Jeff Jarrett. What a rip-off.

It's as clear as Lita's mustache, the WCW brass decision to back Booger T was based not on what he's done but rather on what he is. You know exactly what I mean: T got the nod because they wanted a certain "type" of person on top, one who's the opposite of what I am. Nobody wants to address the issue, but it's absolutely true. Bias clearly came into play here, resulting in my "type" getting screwed.

Does Messiah Manor care about being "politically correct"? Yeah, right—about as much as WWF announcer Michael Cole(slaw) looks cool with that dippy hair frosting. With that in mind, I'm going to expose the real reason behind the Harlem Heater's positioning, and spell it all out in black and white. Southpaw Stately declares: Booker T got preferential treatment from WCW executives because he's right-handed. (Um, what did you think I meant?)

Giving credit where it's due, T is a fairly intelligent individual. Well, at least compared to certain other parties in

the promotion.

Simply put, Missing In Action have got to be the absolutely stupidest athletes in WCW—and this is a company with Kronik on the payroll! Did you know General Rection once said, "This Milwaukee's Best is good beer. I wonder where they brew it?"

Need proof M.I.A. are about as bright as a firefly at high noon? Note how Major Gunns went after poor virginal Miss Hancock, a sweet shy farmgirl just trying to make people happy. Don't get me wrong: I usually LOVE broads with that cheap tramp look, so maybe I shouldn't bust on Major Enhancements.

Okay, what can I say to flatter her? I know, I'll call Gunns "a living Barbie doll." (After all, she does have plastic body parts and unnatural blonde hair color.) Here's another compliment: "The Major isn't the sort of gal to make mountains out of mole hills." (Her implant surgeon already took care of that.)

Frankly, with a few exceptions, I don't think any of the tomatoes profiled in this issue belong at ringside in managerial roles. I mean, like in nearly everything else, babes simply aren't as good at it as us he-men. Understand, although I advocate ditching the dolls, I'm not for putting them back out on the street. No, sympathetic Stately is instead offering computer training to whatever wenches want it.

So, everyone from Terri to Tygress, come on down. I personally will ensure you get plenty of hands-on experience; and I'll be delighted to handle your floppies as well as supply full access to my hard drive. Then we'll start the lessons. [Wayne, you're a pig!—Editor]







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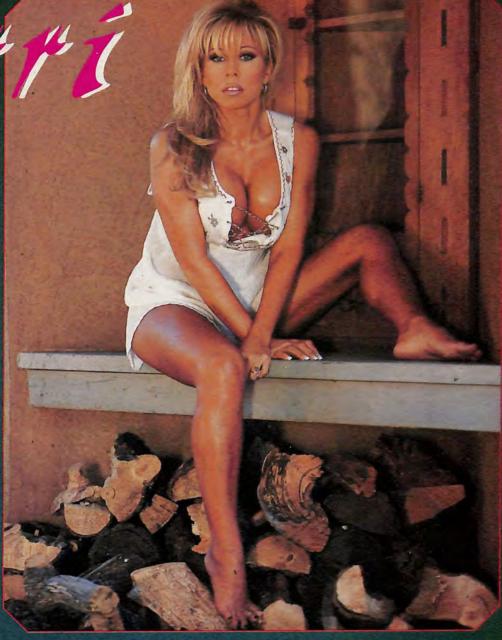
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arely five feet and a hundred pounds, 34vear old Terri Boatwright-formerly the WCW's Alexandra York, a laptop-carrying bespectacled accountant for Mike Rotunda-is a ripe Georgia Peach who made her WWF debut at the '96 Royal Rumble. One of the most hotly anticipated matches that year had Goldust, in a controversial gay storyline, having eves for Razor Ramon. The showdown was a good one, and when Goldust, surely the most bizarre WWF creation ever, entered the ring, he had this mysterious blonde beauty by his side, in a sexy gold dress, smoking a cigar, and sitting in her own director's chair at ringside! She caused quite a sensation! She also helped the Gold one by taking some gold dust out of her purse and blowing it into Ramon's eyes. Then she feigned injury so the ref had to help her, and when he did, The 1-2-3 Kid ran in the ring, attacked Ramon, and let Goldust win the Intercontinental Championship.

On Raw the following night, she was introduced as Marlena, Goldust's new "Personal Director." It wasn't too long before Triple H tried to steal her away from Goldust, claiming he'd show her what a "real man" was all about. At the inevitable Goldust/HHH match. HHH stole a kiss from a blushing Marlena. When HHH replaced his male butler valet Curtis with Chyna, Chyna wound up putting Marlena in a kingsized headlock. Despite a major headache, Marlena continued to rub Chyna the wrong way and would constantly get beaten



up at the hands of HHH's Amazon valet

On May 5, 1997, Goldust and Marlena finally took off the gold trimmings for a shoot interview with Jim Ross. Marlena and Goldust were unveiled as man and wife, Terri and Dustin Runnels, Dustin being the son of The American Dream Dusty Rhodes. They spoke of the fact that their precious daughter was growing up not knowing her grandfather who refused to speak to Dustin for accepting the gay Goldust character.

Three weeks later the couple were spotted in their street clothes in the crowd at a Triple H match.

Yet when the bout ended, they ran from their seats and attacked HHH and Chyna from behind!

Their next feud was with the late Brian Pillman. It lasted for months, Pillman even stealing Marlena away for his own, intimating a love affair. Marlena even came out with Pillman during a few matches, dressing sexy, acting slutty. It drove Goldust crazy. Eventually, it also wrecked their marriage.

Terri has since had numerous feuds with all sorts of personalities in the WWF. She remains to this day one of the fed's most popular ladies.—Mike Greenblatt★

Photo courtesy WWF.



"Beauty And The... Bitch"

by Dov Teta

Born September 20, 1976 in Hartford, Connecticut, Stephanie Marie is the latest McMahon family member to take the wrestling world by storm. Following the lead set

forth by her father, the brilliant Vince McMahon Jr., and her brother Shane, Stephanie has already engrossed herself in the minds of wrestling fans around the world. Her current storyline involves a love triangle between husband Triple H and Olympic Hero Kurt Angle. This Angle angle has kept fans at the edge of their seats, as the whole world awaits to see

to whom Stephanie's heart truly belongs. Despite how it all ends up, Stephanie's rookie year has been a glowing success. Along with Shane, Stephanie McMahon will obviously hold the reins in taking the WWF into new and exciting directions.

Stephanie graduated from
Boston College in 1998 and while
her parents hoped she would take
her college education into a different direction, Stephanie, since she
was a little girl, has always wanted
to be in the family business. With
little intention of ever being an
onscreen personality, Stephanie
took a job with the WWF as an
Account Executive in the New York
offices. Being a McMahon, it was
impossible for Stephanie to not
want to grab some of the spotlight.

It was eight years earlier that Stephanie first showed her face to wrestling fans as she appeared in the WWF merchandise catalog, modeling a Hulk Hogan Painters

From Left: Former Champion Lou Thesz, Kurt Angle & Pat Patterson. We predict Stephanie will leave her husband for the handsome Olympian.

cap and a Rockers T-shirt.

Making her onscreen debut last year, thrust into a bitter battle between the Undertaker's Ministry of Darkness and her father Vince, she was unable to crack the power threshold that CEO Vince had over the federation. The Undertaker made his hatred personal, focusing on Vince's vulnerable spot--his family. Week after week, Undertaker dropped hints at his devious plan, but it was when Vince anonymously received his daughter's teddy bear, that the sinister plan was unveiled. Stephanie, whose onscreen personality still left much to be desired at that point in time, found solace staying by her father's side. Vince guarded his

innocent jewel with his life, but found himself being called away time after time. Cronies Gerald Brisco and Pat Patterson, along with Shane, were given babysitting

duties when Vince wasn't around, but the grasp on the innocent Stephanie was slipping away. After weeks of terror and torment, The Undertaker had kidnapped Stephanie by posing as the family's personal limo driver.

The Undertaker kept Stephanie hidden from her family over the next couple of weeks, and valiant attempts from various wrestlers including Ken Shamrock came up short in reuniting father

and daughter. The mind games played by the Ministry of Darkness set the stage for what promised to be Vince McMahon's worst nightmare. On RAW one night. The Undertaker brought Stephanie out to the ring, visibly distraught, draped in a black velvet dress, and actually tied to a wooden cross! A nationwide audience was about to watch a hellish wedding ceremony take place between Undertaker and Stephanie. As Paul Bearer oversaw the proceeding, Stephanie made numerous attempts to break freeand there were valiant attempts by other wrestlers to set her free-but they were all unsuccessful. Undertaker's minions prevented a rescue, but were finally overcome by a very unlikely individual,

SEWE SIUE

by Vincent N. Cecolini

thin a few weeks, the Blue Meanie, one of professional wrestling's most endeared performers, will be making a tough decision. Will he head to the resurgent WCW, where he is being courted by head booker Vince Russo, or will he return to ECW, the federation that made him a star. After being

released twice by the WWF, it may come as a surprise that he is hotly touted. Although he has created a name for himself as the

side-



kick of such stars as Raven. Stevie Richards. Goldust and Al Snow, and has obvious comedic talent, he has never been given the chance to show off his in-ring ability [he can execute a devastating moonsault]. After working in WWF's Memphis training facility and local promotions for most of the past year, he has further developed his skills and recreated himself. Although the once rotund wrestler is now nearly svelte, the WWF, unable to come up with

a storyline for him, gave the Blue Meanie his release in June. Undaunted, he has accepted bookings for independent wrestling shows well into October, after which he will take the next step in his professional career.

A lifelong fan of pro wrestling, the Blue Meanie graduated high school and left his home in Atlantic City, New Jersey to train at Al Snow's school in Ohio. His classmates included D-Lo Brown, Reckless Youth and former NWA World Champion Dan Severn. After making his independent wrestling debut

in 1995 as the Zebra Kid, he met The Raven, who re-christened him the Blue Meanie and brought him to ECW. As the sidekick of Raven lackey Stevie Richards [now the evil censor of WWF], the Meanie created classic ECW moments, including the N.W.O parody, Blue World Order, which featured the blue guy doing a hysterical impression of Scott "Razor Ramon" Hall. In 1998, after a brief reign as the NWA Light Heavyweight champion, he moved

to WWF to join Al Snow's Job Squad. As would be the case throughout his short WWF tenure, the group quickly disbanded and the angle dropped. Angles featuring the Meanie as Golddust's sidekick and later Stevie Richards' partner were also abandoned. Also, his weight became such an issue that he was given his release after WrestleMania 14. Livid fans, though, started [at www.thebluemeanie.com] an Internet campaign and he was briefly reinstated for a shortlived return before sent down to the WWF Memphis farm.

Upon The Blue Meanie being forced to return to Philadelphia earlier this year to tend to a family situation (he had received the phone call informing him of his WWF release just after visiting his grandmother in the hospital), his new regimen was so successful that few people even recognized him! He had to explain the

change when he showed up at this year's March Metal Meltdown in Pennsauken, New Jersey to sign autographs. It's one reason why the blue guy is currently going through a character change. One of the nicest guys you will ever meet, His Blueness recently spoke with Wrestling World about his past, present and bright future.

Wrestling World: How does it feel to be a free agent?

Blue Meanie: Weird. I'm taking a lot of independent bookings and

doing a lot of autograph signings while sending out feelers and weighing my options.

WW: Do you have a timeframe for making your next career move? BM: I didn't set any goals, but I would like to be somewhere soon. I have plenty of work until at least

October. I'm still able to pay my

WW: What was the highlight of your WWF experience?

BM: Working with Golddust

Old Rocker

> [Dustin Runnels]. What two better characters to work together than Golddust and the Blue Meanie? We were the pair of freaks that your mom always warned you about. We did a lot of great stuff that aired. We also did a lot of even better stuff that never aired. WW: You were a victim of bad timing during your stay in the WWF. BM: Timing was not on my side. I joined the Job Squad right when it was disbanding. I joined up with Golddust, and was released for the first time. Two weeks later, when I

came back, Dustin asked for his release and headed to WCW.

WW: Dustin couldn't be blamed for asking for his release. As often happens in wrestling and on television series, writers sometimes feel that characters have run their course. Golddust was being written out.

BM: That does happen. I always seem to get caught in the middle of things, but I have, and will, keep landing on my feet.

> WW: The WWF seems to go through a house-cleaning after each

WrestleMania. People were shocked when your name appeared on that list last

year. BM: It was weird. They wanted me to lose weight, but I didn't think I would get

released. Jim Ross came up to me one night and said I should lose a couple of pounds. When he said it would help me in the ring when I faced the babyfaces, I thought it was a suggestion from a friend. When I arrived, the WWF was a new world to me. I had no concept of what a road agent was. I didn't know that JR was in charge of talent relations. Soon after our conversation, I got released.

WW: The Blue Meanie was quickly reinstated after a fan Internet campaign.

BM: The fans on the Internet went ballistic. Vince Russo told me the WWF email system shut down after being inundated with complaints about my release. So I was brought

back.

WW: Then you were exiled to Memphis.

BM: Out of sight out of mind. I guess they hoped I would go away auietly.

WW: The outpouring of support from fans must have been overwhelming.

BM: I'was totally blown away. I always try to keep up a relationship with the fans. I keep my web site up to date to let fans know what I am up to.

WW: You discovered on the

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Internet that you were being sent to Memphis to train. That must have been humiliating.

BM: It was. It was reported on 1Wrestling.com before I was even told. I would've been really disappointed if I found out on the Internet that I was being released again. That hit the Internet two hours after I received the call. Often there is too much information on the Internet. It also kills me when people make up news and readers accept it as gospel.

WW: Perhaps in retrospect, these stumbling blocks will work out to

your advantage now that Raven is headed to the WWF and Stevie Richards has returned from debilitating injuries. Would you consider a third run in the WWF? BM: I don't



know. When I returned after being released for the first time, they didn't have anything for me. It was a shame. I had a lot of ideas. I would submit an idea and [another wrestler would mysteriously be using it shortly thereafter]. So you start to get gunshy about giving your ideas away.

WW: Given your current family situation, traveling will be an issue no matter where you head. In the beginning, ECW mostly toured the Northeast, but it's now a national promotion.

BM: ECW had no choice but to grow bigger. At first, it had a cult following, word-of-mouth grew, people traded tapes, and finally ECW was able to hold its first payper-view. Now it's on national television. They had no place to go but up! ECW has a young creative crew hungry to carry the ball and run with it. In the early '90s, with Doink the Clown and TL Hoppers, it was embarrassing to be a fan. I felt like walking around with a brown paper bag over my head. I could've been the unknown wrestling fan. It was certainly a low point in the history of wrestling. But then ECW arrived

and said screw that, we're not going to insult the audience's intelligence. We're going back to what wrestling was really about: real action and matches featuring guys with real names. It was a great place to learn. After Raven brought me in, I learned a lot watching him plan and strategize his matches. He's one of the best interviews, he has a great mind. I also learned a lot from Paul E. Heyman, Shane Douglas, Terry Funk, Tommy Dreamer and Tazz. ECW's a big family. Backstage, everyone sits around a monitor watching the

> matches. When you come back after finishing your match, they'll offer constructive criticism. It's the best thing a young wrestler could ever want. It was also

great that there were no leaders in ECW, just guys running the show and wrestlers.

WW: How did the character of the Blue Meanie evolve?

BM: From the Yellow Submarine movie of The Beatles! Raven thought of it. He has a great wrestling mind. I hope he has truly put his personal problems behind him and will make the most of his opportunities in the WWF.

WW: What about when you were younger? Who were you influenced by?

BM: Bam Bam Bigelow. But by the time I entered wrestling, the novelty of a big agile guy had worn off. It hurt me, because people looked at me as little more than comic relief. The joke is funny the first time, but by the tenth time, it loses its effect. That's why I'm in the process of reinventing the Blue Meanie. The weight's coming off. I found a nutritionist and I regularly visit the gym. It's a whole new way of life. I'm no longer the fat jolly blue guy.

WW: Who's your best friend within wrestling?

BM: Al Snow.

WW: I know music has always been important to you. Who's your favorite rock band? BM: Van was always important to

Halen. Music me ever since I was a kid. It was a means of escape and kept me sane. I had a

rough childhood growing up.

WW: Most teens experience some sort of alienation. It is especially difficult if you are overweight. I speak from personal experience.

BM: When you're young, kids can be very cruel. They don't care what they say to you, but it can have a lasting effect. I also had a severe asthma problem, which held me

back in school. So I was older and bigger than

my classmates. I spent a lot of time as a kid either in the hospital or on the way to the emergency room for shots. Eventually I found the right doctor, who got me on this breathing apparatus. Being overweight did not help, but all of the teasing I received from the other kids was depressing and I would just sit in my room, get bored and then start to eat. It was certainly a vicious cycle. WW: Your wrestling training



must've helped strengthen your lungs. BM: I noticed a difference as soon as I trained with Al Snow. But I had to take baby steps. It was gradual, from learning how to hit the ropes to learning moves. It all helped my

cardiovascular system. And when I left that school, I was in decent

shape.

WW: Your girlfriend, [former adult film star] Jasmin St. Claire, is negotiating to join ECW. Will that affect your decision whether to return to the promotion?

BM: She is still in negotiation, so I don't know. [At presstime, both Blue and Jasmine had signed with

ECW.-Ed]



nose during her last run in BM: No. The people she was working with at the time ruined things for her there. She wanted to go back, but they wanted to start their own compa-WW: I heard you are sellmemorabilia BM: Yes, the old Bludust costume, my JOB Squad shirt, the shirt I wore at the first ECW view, and a couple of shirts.*

WW: Didn't

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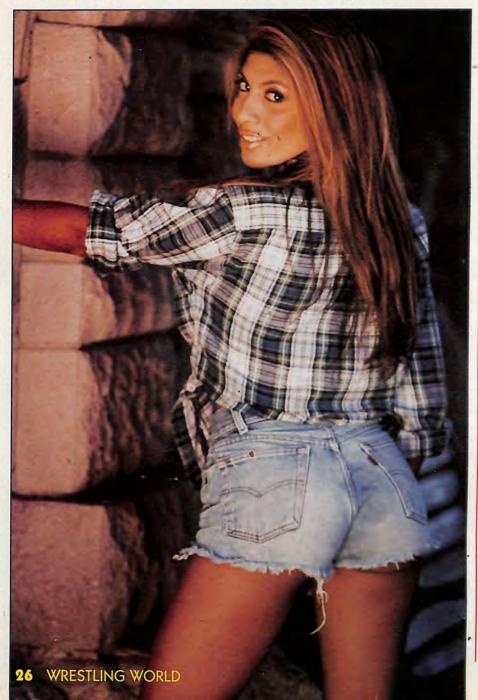


minute of it. We spoke to Jasmine in New York City. She's much sexier and prettier close up than in a ring or in one of her old films. Intelligent, knowledgeable about the sport she's now in, and good on the mic, maybe those pundits were right. Maybe Jasmine is, indeed, headed for wrestling stardom. Hey stranger things

Wrestling World: How does one make the transition from porno to wrestling?

Jasmine: Well, actually, I treated my other career as a total joke, because that's what those people in that side of the business are. They're nothing but a bunch of jokes. Yeah, that's all behind me now. The only thing about that part of my life that I'm ok with are the fans. My fans were never a joke to me. But the people in the porn business are very unprofessional, always doing drugs on the set. Ugh! Bottom line, I'm here to talk about wrestling. And only wrestling. I always liked wrestling growing up, to be honest with you. My grandmother's the one who got me into it. I grew up watching [Superfly Jimmy] Snuka, [Hulk] Hogan,

have happened.



Ultimate Warrior, and I got started off in ECW appearing at the "Living Dangerously" pay-per-view. Right after seeing that, I quit everything else I did to pursue wrestling full-

WW: Tell us about that night. J: "Living Dangerously" and was I scared! I wasn't sure what to expect. I mean, I'd seen ECW on TV many times, but everyone was really really nice. They had me come in, cut a promo, and then Francine came out and I had heat with her. **WW:** How did you get involved in ECW to begin with?

J: I knew Big Dick Dudley from New York, one of the original Dudley Boyz. He now wrestles independently. He hooked it up. Big Dick encouraged me to join after we did some independent shows together. I trained with Sue Sexton, and still do. She really got me more and more involved in it. I take it very seriously. I don't care what people think. I know there's a lot of heat out there about me, but quite frankly, I've been a huge wrestling fan ever since I was a little kid. I even got in trouble once for going to a Garden card. My mother thought I was at a friends' house, turned on the television, and there I was, not too far from the front, with my grandma! I don't know who she got madder at, me or my grandma. was always athletic growing up, into gymnastics and stuff. This is what I really like. I love wrestling.

WW: So you and Francine got into it, eh? Francine's terrific.

J: That first time I had to take a stunner, and face Francine, I was scared. I wasn't sure if I'd get hurt, and I couldn't really afford to get hurt at that time. But it went well. I went back to L.A. and really wanted to learn. Big Dick kept encouraging me, and he put me on some indie shows with him across the country, and I got a feel for the business and decided this is what I wanted to do. I'd be his valet. I'd wrestle a bit. It was very educational. The lessons from Sue, though, are what really cinched it for me. She's such a great teacher. My inspirations in this business are Sue, of course, plus Luna, Medusa, Sherri Martel and Missy Hyatt, who also helped me quite a bit. Missy's great to work with, a real sweetheart.

WW: How did you hook up with The Blue Meanie?

J: Last July I was at the Milwaukee Metalfest. Meanie was on the show. I liked him, but he didn't know it. I don't think he liked me at all. I didn't think I was his type. I was signing autographs and when I went off to wrestle, he was on the card. I



was like, "Good!" So I put on some more perfume, and extra lotion, just for him, hoping he'd take note of me and maybe ask me out, which he never did because some local indie jabronie coldcocked him and told him not to mess with me. But I really liked him, and I really wanted to get to know him. Milwaukee ended and we never hooked up. Then came March [Metal Meltdown] in Pennsauken, New Jersey. Meanie's on the card and I'm on it too working with Missy Hyatt. So we're all in the back, and Meanie and I start talking. Finally, I figured I'd make the first move so I grabbed him by the hand and pulled him over to me. He still didn't get the hint! So I went to the bathroom and I'm sprucing myself up more, and I'm thinking, "What the hell do I have to do to get this guy's attention?" I really liked him, he looked good, he lost all that weight, and he was just so cute and quiet. I wanted him bad. So we were hanging out in catering, and I left this outgoing

message on his voicemail. Then we hung out as I signed autographs, and I accidently leaned over, on purpose, I mean accidentally, and I was trying to flirt with him, so I sat on his lap, just on his leg. I thought, "maybe he has a girlfriend," but I found out later he didn't, and we kept hanging out. We had drinks. We talked. We had dinner. He was definitely what I didn't expect. I mean, he really liked me, from what I gathered, which totally surprised me, so we exchanged phone numbers and stayed in touch, but you know what really shocked me? He stayed in my room with me that night and he didn't try a thing, it was so awesome! He's such a gentleman. He slept on the other bed, God's honest truth. I was shocked. After that we started visiting each other. I went to Memphis and I started working down there with him. He moved back to Philly because of the misfortune with his

Continued on page 86



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Sex Bombshell Thrills XPW Crowds



Continued from page 28

don't realize what's going on in the

KM: I do notice. As we do more and more shows, the storyline gets better and I'm starting to do more and more stuff. I won the Ms. Extreme contest, then I hooked up with Big Dick Dudley, and now I'm with Supreme, The King Of The Death Match! I get to come out a lot more now and it's just great.

WW: I had to view some of your videos as research for this story. Which do you like better, the videos or the wrestling?

KM: The wrestling, definitely.

[laughs]

WW: Well, they're both, uh, physical.

KM: Right. I just think there's more acting in the wrestling. Of course, there's acting in the videos, but I

like stage acting, with crowds.

WW: Fill us in on what's going on in the XPW. Maybe you could say a little bit about what might happen in the near future. Storyline wise, how far in advance do you know what's

gonna happen?

KM: I just know up until the next show, and even that's kind of iffy. WW: So fill us in, what's goin' on? KM: Well, for a while I was with Lizzy Borden, Rod Black's wife, and I was her so-called pet. Those two were supposed to protect me. I'd come out with her and she would basically just boss me around. We showed clips of me bein' at her house and I would have to serve her drinks, and be her slave. That went on for a couple of months, me basically doin' whatever she wanted me to do. So then at one of the shows I finally stood up for myself and I told everybody that I went and got my own protection, 'cause Rob and

Lizzy weren't helping me, and Lazy wasn't doing anything about it. Lazy is the other guy, he's with Sabu, and he was trying to take over the company. So I went out and found my own protection, Supreme, and the crowd didn't know who I was talkin' about. It's so different being with Supreme instead of Lizzy. I hated being her damn pet! I want her in the ring. Her and me got some unfinished business.

WW: So you're Supreme's valet now? **KM:** Yeah. But I'll do more stuff. I'd like to go through a few tables! I could do that! I just need to be trained.

WW: I saw you with blood all over your face and body. Was that your blood?

KM: No. The last death match that Supreme was in was against Messiah. There was, of course, a lot of blood. I hit Messiah with a chair and since I was in the ring, I got a lot of blood all over myself. But it was Messiah's



Sex Bombshell Thrills XPW

Mristinust

Crowds

Continued from page 28

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Jessica and Kristi surround Lizzie Borden.

wasn't doing anything about it. Lazy is the other guy, he's with Sabu, and he was trying to take over the company. So I went out and found my own protection, Supreme, and the crowd didn't know who I was talkin' about. It's so different being with Supreme instead of Lizzy. I hated being her damn pet! I want her in the ring. Her and me got some unfinished business.

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and Supreme's blood, not mine. I wore all white that night: white pants, a little white tanktop, and I was drenched in their blood, covered with it, my face, everything, my hair, ugh! Actually, it was pretty cool.

WW: What do you like to do outside the ring?

KM: I get ready for the shows, get my hair and nails done, go shopping. I love shopping. I'm definitely an outdoors type of a person. You'll never see me just sittin' in front of a TV in the house. I can't do that, I'm either walking, shopping at the mall or on the beach.

WW: Are you single?

KM: Divorced.

WW: Hmmm, and available.

KM: Definitely.

WW: Does it turn you on to think that tens of thousands of boys all over America are fantasizing about having sex with you?

KM: Definitely.

WW: Well, you are extremely adorable. What are, as they say, your stats?

KM: Early 20s, 5'4", blonde hair, green eyes, I weigh 110, and my bra size is 36D.

WW: What do you see for yourself in the near and far future?

KM: Just doing more and more for XPW. I love XPW. I know a lot of people always ask, "Where do you plan to go to next" or "Are you using this as a stepping stone?" and I'm not, because I actually like everybody. I like Rob Black as a person, and I like doing the extreme video, so I'm happy where I am. I intend to stay with XPW. Y'know, actually, Rob Black and I are supposed to be feuding in the storyline so...

WW: Okay, you hate Rob Black, he's a horrible person, and he raped you in the dressing room repeatedly.

KM: [laughing] Exactly. But I'll stick with XPW, 'cause it's the only place I have to go!

WW: Tell us about these extreme videos you star in.

KM: Yeah, they're definitely extreme. Totally hardcore. There's a variety, some are more hardcore than others, with hardcore storylines, and disturbing images. Others are very glamorous and sexy.

WW: Extreme seems to be very popular right now.

WW: Tell us about the ECW pay-per-view in L.A. where you bumrushed the show.

KM: We didn't! This is what happened. We bought tickets and sat in the first row. We showed up wearing our XPW shirts. Security was like, "You need to turn these shirts around," and me, Supreme, Messiah, Kid Chaos, and a few others, did. I had heard that they told people to watch out for us, and to see if Rob Black and Lizzy Borden were there, so they were already expecting us to show up. I think they wanted to start something. I don't know. Our guys got really upset that they had to turn their shirts around, so at the end of



one of the matches we all stood up, turned to the camera, and turned our shirts back around. We were

making a point! They shouldn't tell us to do that! That's when it started. Francine jumped out of the ring, and she's like "You bitch! How could you steal my show?" I did not swing at her [as had been reported] and she did not swing at me. There's all this confusion that I hit her and that she hit me, but she just basically got in my face and yelled at me! So I yelled right back, "I didn't steal your fuckin' show!" And then the wrestlers came out and started throwin' punches!'

WW: The ECW wrestlers? KM: Yeah! They got right out of the ring after security had escorted all our wrestlers outside. Everything was fine. We would've just gone home. Sure, they kicked us out, but so what? We did our thing. Well, all of the [ECW] wrestlers just cleared the locker room and started fights

with us outside in the parking lot. ww: For real?

KM: Hell yeah, for real. This was no

angle. I got out of there real quick. The wrestlers were in a circle

fighting, and I was yelling, "I gotta get out of here" 'cause I was afraid I was going to get it but good! It was a riot! The police had to break it up. WW: So now what's the rela-

tionship like between ECW and XPW?

KM: I think all along they had it in for us. There's too much heat between the companies. I don't know for sure why, but a lot of people are very upset about it. They don't like us and I know we don't like them. WW: I'd love to see a battle of the federations. What a payper-view that would be! KM: Yeah! Me and Francine!

She was really bitchy! I could-n't believe it. She's so hard looking, bitchy and witchy [laughing]. Like that Jasmine too.

WW: I understand you had a feud with Jasmine when she was in XPW.

KM: Nah, she was just very hard to get along with as a person. Nobody could get along with her. She thought she was a star. She created drama at every show when there really didn't have to be any. She could never let anything go. She just has to make a scene. Everybody just got tired of it, started standing up to her, and she was

In the interests of fair journalism (and to avoid a lawsuit), We contacted Jasmine for balancing comment. She had this to say about



Kristi's comments. "She has no clue what she's talking about. She says what she's told to say. I quit XPW because I knew I could do better. They wanted me to do movies and I didn't want to. Period. If I have such

a hard time getting along with people, why don't I have the same problem at ECW? That whole XPW company has no clue what they're doing. Kristi's just jealous of me. I'm flattered, actually. Funny how all she could do is rip on other people. She's just poor white trash on holiday. She knows I'm a star and that's something she could never be.

Jasmine had some other choice words about Kristi's out-of-ring lifestyle that we chose not to print. About the ECW/XPW altercation,

Jasmine was there that night, in the back, and witnessed most of what went on. "Supreme hit a security guard! That's what they're not telling you! You don't hit a security guard and expect to get away with it. And as far as that parking lot fight? It never happened. Our limos were parked close to their trailers and words were exchanged, that's all."★



just no longer there.

WW: She says she was being forced to make those sex videos if she wanted to be an XPW wrestler and that part of her life is over. I respect her for that.

KM: She's a liar. She's just tryin' to gain credibility in the wrestling world by denying her past. Give me a break!

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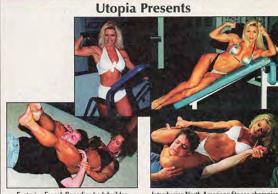
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"If You Can't Handle Pain,
"If You Shouldn't Be
You Shouldn't Be
In The Ring" www. Man, I saw that and it looked like you were really hurt but I couldn't tell.

F: I tried this new move on Steve Corino. It went from the ring apron to the floor. But hit may head head on the ring post, I'm not sure. They said I had a two-inch gash. I bled really bad, and got knocked out for a little bit. Do you remember the spot where they fixed the table sideways and Corino and Justin [Credible] were brawling? Well, they came over when I was standing on the ring apron strength, bravery, beauty and blood at ECW's New York City Hammerstein Ballroom debut, she once again, for the second week in a row, hurt herself. But she's used to it. And, as you'll see from this no-holds-Wrestling World: You were good Saturday! You really knew how to react to those tough New York fans who were hooting and booing you. Talk about heat! about women's wrestling, her competitors, and the way she allows her body to be totally **Francine:** I had a concussion Saturday too. I hit the back of my head, and suffered a big gash. I was supposed to get stitches but I barred intérview, she has quite a lot to say The ECW's by Mike Greenblatt abused in the ring.

floor. That was when I got hurt. I wasn't knocked out cold but, again, it's the second week in a row I got knocked out.

WWW: I know. You just broke your nose last weekend and suffered a concussion.

F: I haven't seen the tape of it yet, but that was Rhino and Sandman. Sandman went for a Frankenstein move on Rhino. I pulled Sandman's foot and instead of going forward into the ring, they fell out of the ring onto the concrete and, as they were falling, I was kicked in the face by Sandman and he broke my nose. I mean, I think it was Sandman. I don't exactly know. It was the bridge of the so I ran and wrapped my legs around Corino's neck and flipped him over to the

www. And you didn't get it fixed?
F: No.
www. Why?
F: I had a doctor look at it. He told me it wasn't so bad. The nose didn't shift. That was a good sign. Hey, if the nose was crooked, it would've had to have been rebroken and rebuilt surgically. But it wasn't and there's nothing you can do except let it heal by itself. So that's what I've been doin', but it blew up again after Saturday 'cause I got knocked in the face like four times. I tried to avoid it but it's kind of hard 'cause you

www. Damel You sure are one tough cookie. That was an excellent card on Saturday.
F: Thank you. Friday night was great too.
We had a really good weekend.
Www: My wife ran upstairs affaid of getting bled on! It was when Billy Corgan of The Smashing Pumpkins ran in the ring and belted Lou Dangerously over the head with his guitar. That was so cool.
F: He bled pretty bad. All over me! between Corino and Credible was rag -best match of the night, by the

way—and Dangerously was crawling around outside the ring on his hands and knees with blood just pouring from his head and mouth. F: He called me after he got stitched up the next day to tell me he needed seven stitches, 'cause his head would just not stop bleed-ing. I told him, "You had great color." [laughs] When he came out of the ring, I was standing there, and my

whole right arm was cov-

girl. One day I was watching television, flipping the channels, and ECW came on. Tuesday at 6 p.m. The original show. They had a commercial saying if you wanted to

I'll live, but I'm lookin' forward to some time off!

WW: You deserve it. Give us a lit-

tle bit of your history.
F: I've been a wrestling fan in Philadelphia since I was a little

bad headache from it now. Hel oeen worse, but I have a really

been a lot worse. So what? I got dizzy, I got back up, and I worked. That's what

everybody does. It could've

stuff goin' on that night! But thank God, again, like I said before, with my nose, it could've

ered in his blood. He ust bled like a pig! nere was a lot of

months and they put me on television. It's been seven years now. I was fortunate. I had J.T. Smith, part of the original F.B., training me. He doesn't wrestle much anymore, and he's not with the company, but I owe a lot to him, 'cause he told me a lot of things. Plus, I learned every day that I worked. I'm still learning. It's great I have such good people to work with. wrestling school! It was me and four other guys and I was the only one who emerged with a contract. I haven't seen any of those quys ever since. I trained for about seven

started working--'cause at the time Sherri Martel was really the only woman actually bumping, doing what the men were doing--I wanted to take Sherri Martel and throw Nancy Sullivan's sexiness into my character. I want-WW. What were some of your biggest obstacles coming up?
F. It's hard being a woman in the sport. Some guys don't think women belong in the locker room, and at the time there were a couple of them, I'm not going to mention names, who forced me to earn their respect. But once I

ed to bump but also look halfway decent doin' it. So that's the character I've built up. But, at the time, none of the women were really doing that, so I just told [ECW prez] Paul [E. Heyman] to bump me as much as

that I decided to give them a call and see if I had what it takes to do this. Tom Gordon was in charge then. I called him, met with him, and enrolled myself in

be a manager, referee, or wrestler, to go to their school. I was such a big fan

you want, and every night I went out there and took a beating, and went through a table, and started gaining everybody's respect. After that, they all thought of me as one of the boys. I wouldn't have had it any other way. It taught me a lot. I learned a lot from the veterans I worked with.

WW: Which males made you earn their respect at the

start? F: I'd rather not say. Everybody was basically nice to me in the beginning, but it's just the fact that a lot of the women in the sport at that

time were just eye candy, and for me to go out and get my ass kicked every night, I just earned everybody's respect. A lot of women can stand there and look pretty, but not a lot of women can do what the girls in ECW can do. Nowadays it's a different story, but back when I started, I was one of the first women to do the table spot from the top rope, and now the Dudley Boyz grab every woman that the WWF has—

and more power to the women for

doing it-but I did

it five years ago. It certainly wasn't

the women doing

it now, because I

common back then. Kudos to all

feel women should be more involved than just standing there and lookin' cute. Women can do a lot more and I'm finally glad that

everybody's comin' out and startin' to do stuff, so that's really good. Once I had everybody's respect I had no problems whatsoever. WW: The women's role has

changed in wrestling. For instance, there's no women's champ in the ECW.

F: No, we don't have a women's division. We probably never will. WW: Why?

F: Paul and I have talked about this many times. He thinks women-onwomen wrestling doesn't sell as well as the occasional cat fight or gimmick match. I know wrestling with women is real big in Japan and they take it very seriously. In the

states, I think that more valets getting involved is a bigger draw than two women actually wrestling. WW: It's a marketing decision. basically

F: Exactly. Hey, if it works for [WWF prez] Vince [McMahon], that's great. We do a lot of mixed tags in ECW. We really don't do

one-on-one with women too often, just 'cause I think the fans want to see more of women rollin' around on the floor or doin' one big high spot than goin' in and doin' a stupid gimmick match. There's a lot of stuff right now in the WCW and WWF that the women are doin', and again, I give them credit for goin' out and doin' stuff, but it's ridiculous, and some of the moves, it doesn't really tell a story. It's mechanical, in my opinion. It's not real women's wrestling. And I give Stephanie [McMahon-Helmsley] credit for goin' in there and learning how to do moves and stuff, and I'm glad that Lita's champion now

'cause I had a chance to work with her, and she's really talented. Now, if they got somebody in there like an Ivory or a Tori or a Luna Vachon, then you could have really good matches, but these little fourminute things with all the interference and stuff, it doesn't make a woman's wrestling match to me.
And I'm not putting

anybody down, but I feel Stephanie and these other women are better off in roles as managers. Stephanie, I gotta say, is the best heel in the business right now. She has mic skills, she can go in there, she does her spots, and I think that, in my eyes, I would rather see someone like Lita be a champion, 'cause Stephanie doesn't need a belt to get heat, all she does is open her mouth! And that's one of the things that I'm blessed with too. I can get cheered for having this little tiny outfit on, but as soon as I open my mouth, they boo me. **ww:** You really know what to say back to them alright! F: And so does Stephanie. We all have our talents. I'm not saying she was-n't a good women's champion, I'm saying she's better off being the role of manager, no matter who they're going to put her with. And Lita's better off now wrestling. WW: As much as I

love to lust after Stephanie, she was a terrible champion, making a mockery of that belt. Hell, the WWF made a mockery of that belt earlier

when they had a man be women's champion! It's the same as the mockery they made of the hardcore title with that stupid 24/7 rule. Those titles mean little now. Maybe Lita can restore that belt back. And what about you? You can obviously

F: I prefer managing. It's just something I choose to do. Now, every once in a while, I'll surprise folks, like with the spot I did Saturday night. Nobody expected me to do somethin' like that. Everybody worked really really hard in that Corino/Credible match. The fans were into everything they did. And for me to be a part of it, and for

them to let me do what I did, it was just such a big night for all of us. I felt so proud. I had told them what my intentions were as far as my spot and they said no problem. We did it. It worked. It's great when you have people who listen to you. **WW:** It would be been nice if you could've got away without a concussion, of course.

Jerry Lynn

prepares

to piledrive

Francine.

F: Yeah, well, y'know, it was a mishap, I hit my head, I got

knocked out for a couple seconds, I got up, I shook it off, I had more stuff to do, and you keep doin' it, and that's part of wrestling. If you can't handle pain, you shouldn't be in the ring y'know? And I know every time I walk through those ropes that I could break a leg, or god forbid something worse happens, but these injuries are minor, so I'll keep doing it. Some girls, they try, but if you come out looking like the typical t&a, they

might cheer you, but it's when you have enough skill to turn the crowd around, then you can wear what you want, and still get your heat. And that's something I learned from working with Shane Douglas, 'cause he was great on the microphone. And from Paul Heyman. It's all in the way you present yourself, and I present myself in a way that everybody seems to hate, so it

works out really good.

WW: What's in your future? What can we look forward to in ECW?

F: Well, you're going to think this is a lie, but this is a total shoot. I don't know any plans for the future. For this weekend, I didn't find out anything until I got to the building. The matches were announced, but we don't know anything until the last minute, and that's how Paul works. All I know is this weekend I have off, so I'm going to rest up, but as for the next loop of shows, I have no clue what we're doing and that's honest.

WW: Take us through a typical card.

F: I go to the building. If I want to practice something I put my sweats on, I get in the ring, I practice. If not, I have a little bit of time to socialize. I'll go, get dressed, put

my makeup on, and sit there until I'm called. When I'm called, that's when I know what's goin' on. There's no scripts to read, no clue what I'm doing, I get my verbiage a minute before I walk out the curtain. Everything's really last minute. **WW:** Do the wrestlers stay in the backstage area and watch the matches and comment on them when the other guys come back, or do they do their stuff and just go

home? F: No no no, we stay from the beginning until the end. If it's a TV taping, we have a monitor set up in the back that we all sit around and watch. We study each match. We applaud them when they come through the curtain, 'cause we know if they do good, the company does good which means I do good, so it's a win-win situation. We want everybody to do their best because it's a team effort and that elevates the company to the next level. Nobody leaves until after the show is over. And if you have promos,

stay until 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning. Last weekend in New York City, some of us didn't get out until 3:00. We did location shots at the Coyote Ugly bar, in Times Square, in Central Park. Sometimes we're at an arena from 3:00 p.m. to 4 a.m. You can't just do your match and leave, that's not something we do here. So it's a very long day. All you see is us working for 15 minutes and you think that's it, but by the time we drive and fly and get to the building and eat and stuff, we're putting in 14hour days.

you might

WW: That thing with the cops at the end of the show was hilarious. Was that a work or a shoot? I couldn't tell.

F: I don't know. All I know is I was backstage and the place just exploded with cops. Hey, it happens. We've had scuffles with the police before. But my head was cut open at the time and I was with the medics. WW: Are you married?
F: Single, with a boyfriend for

over two years.

WW: What do you like to do outside wrestling?

F: Basically, I'm the type to

stay in, rent movies, relax. I don't go to clubs. I don't drink or smoke. I spend a lot of time with my family. We all live within six miles of each other. I have a really large family, and I miss a lot of Sunday dinners with them so when I can, I like to get together with them and just relax. I also like to work on my website, www.francineecw.com. WW: Tell me about the feud with XPW during the ECW taping in Los Angeles.

F: There is no feud. It's them. WW: I understand you were yelling at Kristi Myst from the ring. F: Whatever her name is, yeah. It was all so ridiculous. The bottom line is it's not even worth commenting on. They came to our show. They paid money to sit in the front row to watch a wrestling program. The main event comes out and the girl takes off her shirt and tries to get attention. They get escorted out of the building. That was that. There was no altercation. **WW:** What about in the parking lot afterwards?

F: I wasn't there. I was in the ring at the time. But I was told the XPW guys swung first. For them to make a comment, "Oh, you came into our territory" is ludicrous. We travel all over the country! We're not gonna stop going to L.A. And we wouldn't stop them from doing a show in Philadelphia! I don't even want to comment on it any further. It's just stupid. They showed a lack of class and a total lack of respect for the business.*



Johnny Valentine Needs Everyone's Help

Words & Image by Dr. Michael Lano

uys, it's a shame fans have to be asked to take care of one of our own--but that's the way it is. After Johnny

Valentine's crash, on a Crockett Promotions plane he was urged to ride to save money, no one in the wrestling business helped Johnny Valentine out. [Valentine was my hero. He was the most exciting wrestler of my youth, extreme before extreme became the buzzword it is today. His battles with Buddy Rogers are legendary. He interrupted matches in an era when nobody EVER interrupted another wrestler's matches. In a word, the man was awesome.--Ed.] Since 1975, Johnny's lived very modestly, always finding some way to pay his daily medical bills. He lost all use of his limbs below his arms, and is currently mostly wheelchair-bound. This from one of the hardest of the hardcore icons. Fans have been very good to the families of Frank Goodish, Art Barr and Louie Spicolli when simi-

lar calls for aid have gone out. Well, now it's time to give back to Johnny Valentine for all the years of him giving his heart, muscle, soul and strength to us all.

Valentine is generally regarded as one of the best wrestling athletes of the 20th century. He began in 1947 and wrestled throughout the world, without a break, until the plane crash. Also injured in the crash were Bob Bruggers and Ric Flair, the latter asking Johnny to switch seats with him just before the private plane took off, a seat that would've ended Flair's career as well. Johnny

Johnny Valentine in / happier recent days with two other wrestling legends, Don Leo Jonathan and the (still masked) Destroyer.

> main-evented in Madison Square Garden, Tokyo's Korakuen Hall, San Francisco's Cow Palace, L.A.'s Olympic Auditorium, St. Louis' Kiel Auditorium and literally everywhere. He was known as one of the toughest, stiffest wrestlers ever, taking Ric Flair under his wing when he came to save the Carolina Crockett NWA territory during a poor workrate Iull. Johnny's hardcoreness and

fierce battles changed all that and the entire territory improved almost overnight with Johnny booking and getting fan interest back.

He also helped develop Ricky Steamboat and other future stars, being generally regarded as the saviour of that area, adding to the biggest financial boom in history until WWF. Johnny is still widely respected and loved as a legend and a very capable trainer. There's just no money to pay all his hospital and doctor bills, let alone the medications he needs to survive.

I'm taking forever co-writing with him his autobiography to help raise money for this hardcore great. But his bills, pain and deteriorating health have grown increasingly worse the last two months to the point where I suggested to his wife Sharon that she set up a post office box to receive donations from those interested in helping a wrestling legend survive.

Sharon has been ulcerating in worry that they won't be able to pay the med bills since his condition has taken a rapid downturn. She fears he won't live out the year.

Valentine was too proud to sue. He never got a dime after the crash. He was left

with no savings, no retirement and no medical coverage of any kind. He's still a proud man, steadfastly refusing to ask for help all these years. And he's still not. It's myself and Wrestling World editor Mike Greenblatt, as his fans, and with his wife, asking his other fans and fans of the hardcore style, for financial

Wife Sharon Valentine: "To my



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84 Russian sickle

87. Small package

88. Spine buster

89. Sunset flip

90. Superplex

85. Sleeper 86. Slingshot suplex

69. Brain buster 70. Bulldog

Cradle

74. Crucifix

75. DDT

Camel clutch

Cobra clutch

71









YOUR NAME (PRINT NEATLY)



☐ 6. Eric Darkstrom

CITY, STATE, ZIP

WRESTLER'S NAME (DO NOT USE ANY REAL PRO WRESTLER NAMES)



the Secret Weapon

Wear-Down Holds: Choose 10 of the holds at the left numbered 1-60. Only use a hold once.





Craven



Set-Up Holds: Choose 5 of the holds at the left numbered 61-90. Only use a hold once.

Finishing Hold: Create your own custom final maneuver or choose a hold from our list.



Jones



Diablo Sanchez



☐ 5. Wildfire Johnny Rage Opponents: Check the box below each wrestler you wish to challenge.



☐ 10. Tygai Singh

Continued from page 19

"Beauty And The ... Bitch"

McMahon rival, Steve Austin. Stephanie embraced her Stone Cold savior, and a relieved Vince McMahon made his way to the ring. to thank his bitter enemy. Could the war be over?

A few weeks later, a more shocking revelation was made. Stephanie's abduction by the Undertaker was orchestrated by her father and brother. solely for the purpose of gaining Austin's trust. Stephanie was nothing more than a pawn to her family, despite her father's and brother's constant pleas that their actions were strictly business and not personal. Stephanie's introduction to the world of the WWF was a bitter one. and feelings of betrayal from the people she felt she could most trust would set the precedent for the future. In time, she would come to forgive her family, but she wouldn't forget what had hap-

Stephanie's next adventure in the WWF also revolved around a wedding, but what began as a sweet love story turned into a series of double crosses, which showed that the vindictive McMahon blood ran through her veins as well. Free from the grasp of the Undertaker, Stephanie started developing a friendship with WWF up'n'comer Test. As part of the now-defunct Union, rather than fight against the Ministry of Darkness, Test spent his time with Stephanie. In front of thousands of spectators, a grinning Stephanie agreed to go on a date with the tall Adonis-like grappler. Taking things slowly, Stephanie and Test remained discreet about their burgeoning love. Older brother Shane saw Test as a threat to his younger sister, and enlisted his friends from home, The Mean Street Posse, to break up the romance. Overcoming every obstacle thrown

in front of them, their relationship flourished, and in a rare instance of retreat. Shane and Vince backed off and accepted Test into the family circle, as their engagement brought tears to the thousands in attendance that night.

Lovers' bliss took a tragic turn. though, when in a backstage fit of rage, the British Bulldog hurled a garbage can in disgust and accidentally struck Stephanie in the head. The prognosis was amnesia.

Sweet-n-innocent Stephanie with her parents.

> and the once strong bond between her and Test was hardly even a memory now. Several weeks went by and slowly Stephanie began to regain her memory. A supportive family, and ever-attentive Test, ignited feelings within her. Stephanie reversed the roles the next week, and called Test out to the center of the ring, where she proposed to him. The dream wedding was upon us, or was it?

A majestic Monday night RAW was the setting as Vince escorted his daughter to the ring. Stephanie and Test began exchanging their nuptials, when all eyes turned to the Titantron. Another McMahon family enemy, Hunter Hearst Helmsley, wanted to present his

own aift to the stunned wedding party. With the use of video tape, Triple H replayed the events of the previous 24 hours, in which he had Stephanie drugged at her own bachelorette party, and then in a state of unconsciousness, she was driven to Las Vegas, where she and Triple H were married in a drivethrough chapel! A terror-stricken Test made his way after Triple H, while a stunned Vince attempted to console Stephanie as she pleaded ignorance of the events that had

taken place.

An assertive Stephanie assured her father and brother that she would handle things her own way. and confronted Triple H with annulment papers. With a mocking laugh. HHH refused to sign the papers, but did agree to a match with Vince, stipulation being if HHH won, he would get a shot at the WWF title, but if he lost, he would agree to nullify his marriage with Stephanie. A brutal war erupted that night, as Vince and Triple H battled with a ferocity of a pack of wild dogs. The climax of the match saw a beaten Triple H in the corner of the ring, and Vince about to strike him with a sledgehammer. Stephanie came into the ring and asked her father if she could be the one to swing the hammer down. As she raised the weapon above her head, a change of heart overtook her as she put the hammer down and apologized that she couldn't do it. A

bewildered Vince was then sneakattacked by HHH, pinned in the middle of the ring! Stephanie dropped to her knees in an effort to console her father. An adrenalinepumped HHH rose to his full height to seemingly strike Stephanie and Vince again. A sullen Stephanie looked up at HHH. She rose to her feet. Her horror-stricken expression turned into a sneaky smile. She embraced her new husband and the scam was on! They left the ring arm in arm as a crumpled Vince could only watch in horror.

"Hell hath no fury like a women scorned," was what Stephanie explained to her family the following week. With a new aura about her,

the new Mrs. Helmsley reminded her father and brother of the trauma they put her through a year earlier, and felt this was the best revenge possible. A distraught Vince and Shane went into denial and took a leave of absence from the ring. The McMahon-Helmsley faction was in full force, and the newleyweds took over every aspect of WWF programming.

Brother Shane returned to claim power a month later as he brought the giant-like Big Show into the picture in order to win the title from HHH, and regain his share of power in the WWF. A returning Vince also made his bid for power siding with The Rock. The McMahon family war became complete, when Vince's wife and Stephanie's mother, Linda McMahon, entered the mix to stand aside Mick Foley. A Fatal Four Way Elimination match was set for Wrestlemania. The prize was the WWF title and complete control of the federation.

A confrontation in the middle of the ring with Linda saw Stephanie slap her mother in front of her brother and father. "Daddy's Little Girl" was in full bitch mode and out of control. Blaming her father for how things were, she spat that he simply had to live with the consequences. Seeing little option, Vince ordered his daughter to compete for the Women's title later that night, knowing that an experienced Jackie would teach the young Stephanie a lesson. Stephanie won the match and the belt, to further rub salt in the wounds of her family.

Wrestlemania saw a McMahon family member in each corner supporting their own wrestler. The Big Show and Mick Foley were eliminated early, leaving Triple H and the Rock to end the war. With a firm upper hand, Vince entered the ring with a steel chair, as the frenzied crowd expected him to knock Triple H out. In typical McMahon fashion, Vince instead clocked the Rock, allowing Triple H to gain victory. With a devilish grin, Stephanie embraced her father and the family reunion almost became complete the next night on RAW.



All except Linda celebrated the McMahon-Helmsley Faction in the middle of the ring. Linda, brave and independent, appointed Mick Foley as new WWF Commissioner.

Enter the Angle angle. Olympic Gold medalist Kurt Angle had been impressing everyone upon his entrance into the WWF. He had



even caught the eye of Stephanie, as she openly admitted to thinking he was cute. Increased random meetings led to a friendship between the two. But in typical "Three's Company" fashion, a series of mistaken encounters led Triple H to become vocal in his jealousy of their growing friendship. Triple H's growing insecurity led to

verbal confrontations with his wife. Unknowingly, he was driving his wife away, and Kurt Angle saw his opportunity to pounce. Upon completion of a match in which Stephanie had been knocked out. Kurt Angle confessed his love for the sexy wife of another man and kissed her on the lips before a shocked Smackdown crowd. Stephanie at first was shocked during the kiss but soon wrapped her arms around Angle's massive shoulders. Later, she maintained innocence to her ever-impatient husband. Once again, Triple H gave Stephanie the benefit of the doubt. Kurt continued his pursuit, and in chess-like strategy, continued to drive a wedge between the couple. Stephanie remained by her husband's side, but kept a faint ear open for Kurt's verbal pleading that she leave her jealous and rage-driven spouse.

An argument behind closed doors caused disruption in the WWF locker room, and the police were called on a domestic violence charge. Triple H was brought down to the station for questioning, but was unsure of who had made that call. Commissioner Mick Foley played the role of Detective Sherlock Holmes as he laid out reasons why several people could have been the one to pick up that telephone. The culprit turned out to be the most unlikely person, but the one with the most reason to do so. It was Test! Test had waited long and hard and his revenge was sweet. It was also short as HHH pinned him quickly and efficiently in the ring later that night.

With Test now back in the picture, Stephanie McMahon has become a marked woman. Will she remain by the side of her husband and continue to stand above the WWF mountain? Will she run off with Olympian Kurt Angle and tarnish his 3 l's? Will she return to Test, her first true love? Or perhaps the bright lights and public spotlight will finally wear thin on her, and she will decide to shack up with this humble journalist! Stephanie, call me! [No, call me!—Ed.]*

Fabulous Woolah **Class And Beauty Times Two**

Words & Image by Dr. Michael Lano

ost wrestling fans only know longtime woman champion Fabulous Moolah and Mae Young from their current WWF skits and octogenarian Young's hilarious romantic pairing with Olympic strongman Mark

Henry. But these two grappling girl legends have been competing for many decades and in fact it was Johnny Mae Young who taught and trained Fabulous Moolah for the ring. Mae was a wellknown carnival "shooter" (tough wrestlers who can really disable opponents quickly), arguably the toughest lady wrestler in the '40s and '50s. Moolah Lillian Ellison was being tapped by Jack Pfeffer (the Vince McMahon of his day) to begin valeting for Nature Boy Buddy Rogers as Slave Girl Moolah

around 1952. Moolah often would take bumps much like today's Terri Runnells or Ms. Hancock, and soon she was valeting for the likes of The

Elephant Boy.

Mae had already toured the world to help get women's wrestling going in Japan and Mexico before Moolah began testing the waters as a fulltime lady wrestler. So Moolah was well educated and quite equipped to battle the likes of such female champions as Cora Combs, Penny Banner, Nel Stewart, Ida Mae

Martinez, Mildred Burke or June Byers. Mae already had classic matches as well as alleged shoots with Burke and Byers.

Rechristened The Fabulous Moolah ("because that's what it was all about in wrestling, baby-the moolah!"), she also fought the aforementioned female legends.

the very first New York women's match at the new Madison Square Garden (the state had banned women's wrestling many years earlier). Because the prior organizer of women's wrestling from the '40s through the '60s (Billy Wolf) was reportedly oppressive and not the

> best payoff man, Moolah used her clout to promote and manage women's wrestling all on her own. She was not only a traveling champion (and one of the top heels-male or female-of her day), but promoted and booked her own World Tag Team Women's Champions around the world--usually with Donna Chritenello and Toni Rose as well as Joyce Grable,

Vicki Williams and Judy Martin in various pairings. She even had classic battles with lady wrestlers who were not part of her stable like Banner, Vivan Vachon (sister to the famous Vachon Brothers, Mad Dog and Butcher), Betti Nicoli, Ann Casey and Jean Antone. Just like Andre The Giant touring wrestling cities as an attraction, the lady wrestlers made Moolah the top empressario for women's wrestling in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.



Since footage does not exist of those titanic battles, there has been great debate as to their actual outcomes. Neither legend had longlasting careers or influence, something Moolah would nurture carefully over her decades as World Woman's Champion, and later, in '84, WWF Women's Champion, a belt Lita now proudly wears.

Moolah broke many barriers in women's wrestling from 1960 on--in the early '70s, she participated in

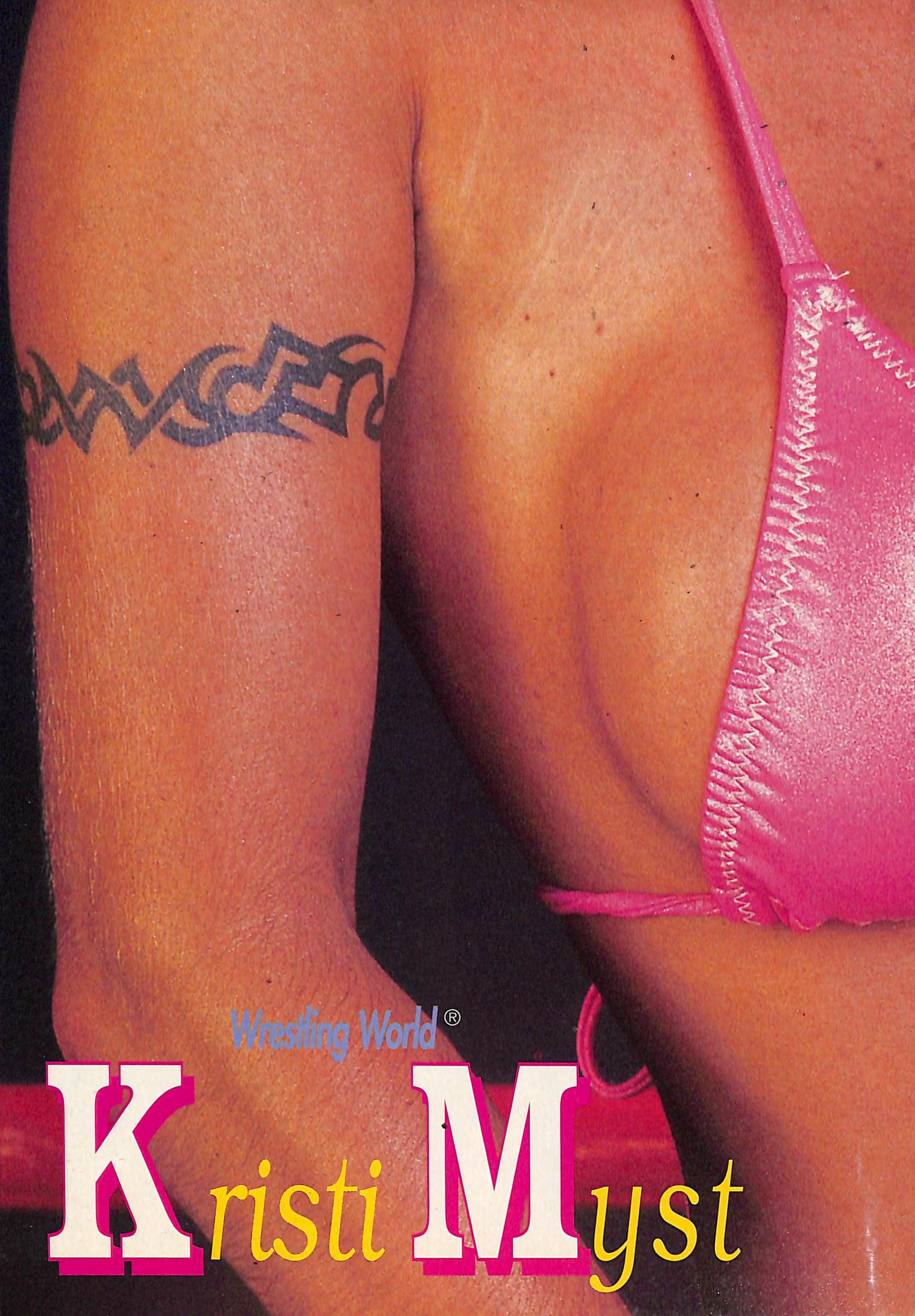














The Kat

photo: Dr. Mike Lano

his 5'3 115-pound cutie—real name Stacy Carter-is a twotime WWF World Women's Champion. The Kat made her WWF debut on a hot Monday night RAW in August of 1999. She's the main squeeze of none other than Jerry "The King" Lawler. The two met in 1989 at a celebrity softball game, a game in which her mom's boyfriend was playing. When The King met The Kat he went bonkers and wouldn't stop trying to read the small printing on her tight t-shirt. Kat liked the attention and started inviting him over to her

apartment to watch soap operas. Lawler put up with as many afternoon dramas as he could before inviting her to see him wrestle. She had never been to a wrestling match. The very first night she went, Lawler was busted open by Bam Bam Bigelow. The blood literally gushed from his forehead! Kat was apalled but secretly excited. She admitted to Lawler that she could be a good valet. Lawler got her gigs in Power Pro Wrestling and Music City Wrestling out of Tennessee, as well as the NWA, where she debuted as Lovely Stacy. While in the rather old-fashioned NWA, she shocked fans by being the the first female wrestler to ever rip her top off. With Chyna as her self-admitted major influence, Kat has graduated from showing off her "kitties" to becoming a strong independent role model type, much like her hero Chyna for whom she used to valet for. "She signs more autographs than I do," complains Lawler with a smile.—Mike Greenblatt★



Photo: Blair M. Relyea



by Dov Teta

ver the centuries, the world has uncovered many wonders such as the Great Pyramids of Egypt, the Grand Canyon and the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. In a short several-year span, the World Wrestling Federation has uncovered two natural phenomenons. The first was Andre The Giant, nicknamed "The Eighth Wonder of the World." Now there's Chyna, who has lived up to her billing as "The Ninth Wonder Of The World," the most dominant female athlete to ever enter the squared circle. Too powerful to equally compete with other women, she has grappled with the WWF's top male stars and has beaten them



on their own terms often enough to earn both industry-wide respect and millions of fans around the world.

Born Joanie Laurer on December 27, 1970, one of three kids in Rochester, New York, Chyna spent her youth earning academic/athletic accolades as a way to separate herself from a dysfunctional family situation. It got so bad at home, in fact, she left at the tender age of fifteen. Her Dean's List grades had earned her a United Nations scholarship where she traveled to Spain to finish her studies and gain her high school

diploma, while making sure to also see the world by traveling to Germany and France where she spent much time. From there, she won another scholarship, this time to study at the University of Tampa, Florida, where she majored in Spanish literature.

With her kind nature and ability to make others laugh, she proved quite popular. Throughout her youth, Chyna was noticeably larger in stature than her peers. Her college years found her spending more time working out with weights and taking

advantage of what she calls her genetically gifted body. In 1992, she joined the Peace Corps. It was there in Costa Rica that she hoped she would land a job as a foreign diplomat. She actually thought seriously about working in the Secret Service, becoming a female James Bond! To make money, though, she sold beepers, sang in an oldies band, worked as an airline attendant, and once even as a belly dancer.

Her diverse and varied work experiences ultimately led her within certain circles that she might not have had access to, had she not been as entrepreneurial as she was. Through it all, the lure of the gym finally claimed her soul. While searching for a life's goal, she began taking her body building much more seriously, entering fitness competitions, and appearing in several major fitness and bodybuilding

magazines.

The final "life-purpose" finally revealed itself one day while she was watching professional wrestling on TV. Here was her chance to use her larger-than-life physical attributes, which had been held against her in her youth, and her ability to entertain, rolled into one. Paying no attention to the imposing odds against her, Chyna visited a local wrestling trainer, promoter and legend, Walter "Killer" Kowalski [the same Killer Kowalski who bit off Yukon Eric's ear during a 1954 match-Ed.] Unsure of her decision of whether she truly wanted to explore this opportunity, she asked if she could simply try out a few moves to see if she was comfortable. Kowalski responded to her request with some words that would remain in Chyna's brain until today. She continues to use them as inspiration and motivation. He simply told her, "You either do it, or you don't."

Chyna did.

Facing the same obstacles and biases she did as a child, Chyna then found herself being mocked and rejected from her fellow wrestling classmates. She was the only female in her class, and rather than backing off and quitting, she used it as motivation to work harder. During her training, she also studied boxing.

Upon completion of her training at Killer Kowalski's school, she began her career wrestling for an organization called Ladysport/Special Events Promotions. She adopted the name Joanie Lee. She wrestled for several months and everyone took notice of her. She had a presence when she entered the ring that was intimidating

and enticing. She was gaining experience and respect from her peers, which is what she wanted more than anything else. As time passed, she realized that she wasn't going to be able to sustain a career wrestling strictly in women's organizations. She needed to make a jump to the big leagues.

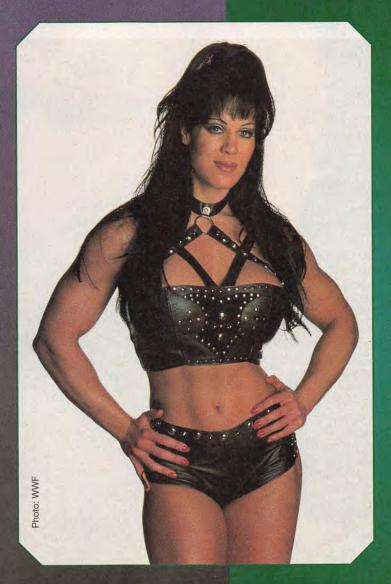
Physically and emotionally exhausted, Chyna started self-promoting herself at wrestling shows, gyms and to anyone who would listen. Who wouldn't listen to a determined woman of this stature? Draining her bank account with her travels, her persistence finally paid off when she was introduced to Jean Paul Levesque who also trained under Killer Kowalski. Levesque wrestled in the WWF under the name Hunter Hearst Helmsley. They developed an imme-

diate friendship and seeing how determined she was to make it in the business, he brought up the idea to Vince McMahon. Not thrilled with the idea, Vince initially passed. A dejected Chyna turned her focus towards boxing.

Just prior to having her first pro boxing match, she finally received a call from McMahon. Persistence from her friend Helmsley paid off, and McMahon agreed to give her a shot. February 1997 saw Joanie debut as Chyna at the WWF "In Your House" Pay Per View. At the time, Helmsley was in a bitter feud with Goldust and his valet, Marlena. Chyna entered the federation as HHH's bodyguard. The fans immediately took to the female Adonis. It greatly pleased Vince.

Around this time, HHH and Shawn Michaels formed Degeneration X (DX),

Continued from page 87





What compels the fans to embrace this seemingly streetwise, tattooed young woman? "Lita is every man's fantasy and every

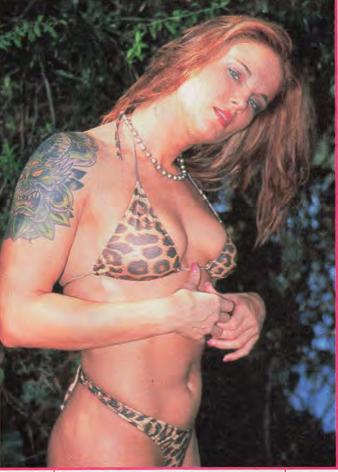
woman's hero. She is hot. talented, and doesn't come out there trying to look like a sex symbol. That makes her all the sexier. To the young women who watch her, she's an inspiration. She mixes it up with the women and can hold her own with the men in the ring. She oozes sex appeal," says one Lita fan. It is hard to argue with that assessment. At presstime, Lita was the WWF woman's champion and was gaining a huge fan base.

The 5'7" 135-pound Dumas is neither a paper champion nor a valetturned bumptaker. She is a well-trained athlete, skilled in both judo and kickboxing. She realized her passion for wrestling after watching the luchadors on WCW around four years ago. After meeting wrestler Luna (Angelle Vachon), Dumas was convinced that she, too, wanted to

be a wrestler. Not sure where to begin. Dumas saved her money. then headed down to Mexico and ended up as a valet for the luchadors for a short time. Unhappy with that role, she returned home to Richmond, Virginia (She was born in Florida, then migrated to Atlanta, ending up in Richmond as young woman) determined to save her money and. this time, train to be a wrestler. Dumas ended up back in Mexico to start her in-ring training. Back home, Amy worked some independent shows and continued to learn how to take bumps and to wrestle with the boys in January, 1999.

Her big television break came when she signed with ECW in the spring of 1999 as Angelica. Although she didn't get much ring time, she did get noticed by the fans. Not content with the "sidekick" role, Amy enrolled in Dory Funk's Funkin' Conservatory. Funk

has seasoned such stars as Kurt Angle, The Hardy Boyz, Test, Edge/Christian, Val Venis, Steve Corino and countless others.



Continuing with her ECW role, Dumas was stuck in Nowhere Land as Miss Congeniality. At last, in October of 1999, Amy left ECW and

Lita Stats

Real Name: Amy Christine Dumas

Height: 5'7"
Weight: 135
Hair Color: Red
Eye Color: Hazel
Date of Birth: April 14, 1975
Little Known Fact: She is a
Jerichoholic

Favorite Music: Rock'n'Roll Favorite Pro Sport: Hockey

signed with the WWF. No one could know what was in store for this gorgeous woman.

Although Amy looks angelic, the tattoo that she sports on her right

shoulder and arm, tells a different story. "I traveled in Europe for a while and I decided to get a tattoo on my arm. It doesn't mean any-

thing, there is no symbolic reasoning for it," she said in a recent Internet radio interview.

That's a free spirited woman for you.

Dumas is a polite, down-to-earth girl who has high aspirations and hopes for herself. She credits Essa Rios, whom she met briefly in Mexico, as being a terrific help to her highflying moves when both debuted in the WWF. "Whenever I asked Essa to help me with a move, he would say 'Oh that's easy' and show me how to do it," she said in the interview.

Dumas has taken bumps from the biggest stars in the WWF, been through the obligatory table, been horsewhipped by Trish Stratus, powerbombed by Eddy Guerrero outside the ring (she could not lift for six weeks after that one), and has been the underdog more than the victor since becoming an integral part of WWF. Still, every time she is down, she

comes back stronger than ever, to the deafening applause of the arena fans.

And what's not to love? A freshfaced girl with long red hair, a great body, and endless talent, Dumas is finally getting the accolades she worked so hard to earn. Always the overachiever, in her 25 years she has attended college, traveled the world, played bass guitar in a rock band, and is now one of the top stars in the #1 sports entertainment federation in the world.

Is she content? Well, just about. On her official website, www.amydumas.net, she claims to want to have an action figure of herself created, to be in a video game, to wrestle in Japan, to do a guest appearance on Pamela Anderson's VIP television show and, most of all, wants to ride a mechanical bull.

How many of her male fans would pay a week's salary to see that?★

Continued from page 6

free of the cartoonish over-the-top manager to move on to more serious rivalries. He captured his second World Title from Sycho Sid at the 3/97 WrestleMania XIII in a 21-

minute war.

In '97, though, things really got strange. In July, Paul Bearer revealed a secret from Calaway's past, and The Undertaker was beholden to Bearer once again. When Kane (Glen Jacobs) debuted at the side of Bearer (who claimed to be his father, having had an affair with The Undertaker and Kane's mother years ago), fans groaned at the bizarre twist of events.

Still, Calaway managed to hold on to his fan base even when it was revealed what the secret was that Bearer knew: that he had burned down his parents' house, killing them and (he thought) his younger brother Kane. The Undertaker denied starting the fire. Doubts were cast. Bearer dubbed The Undertaker a murderer. As expected, a brutal feud between Kane and the Undertaker ensued with a series of inferno matches, despite The Undertaker's insistence that he would never fight his longlost brother. And then, the WWF entered into what many say is the strangest era of all; "The Ministry" era. The Undertaker turned vicious and broke into Bearer's home, trashing it and beating Bearer silly. However, despite the Undertaker's revenge, Calaway broke his ankle doing the angle, which remains a problem for him today.

In what many will remember as the most gruesome match of his career, Calaway and Mankind fought in a 6/98 "Hell in a Cell" match. As fans watched in awe, The Undertaker threw Foley off the top of a 17-foot-high cage and then, as if that wasn't enough, sent him through the cage to the mat, leaving a battered Foley with a tooth sticking out of his nostril, a hole in his lip and several internal injuries. Of that match, Calaway has said it was his first out-of-body experience. Although he had been involved in hundreds of brutal matches, including the first-ever "Hell in a Cell" match against Shawn Michaels, plus a stunning series of Boiler Room Brawl Matches with Foley, the incredibly dangerous "Hell in a Cell" Foley match is one fans will probably

recall years from now when they think of either man.

In another transformation of "The Phenom," The Undertaker became "The Lord of Darkness," casting spells and sacrificing people on the "Undertaker Symbol" or cross. This was one of the most controversial storylines in the WWF to date as the lines between religion, human sacrifice, and even implied rape were crossed. Sacrificing wrestlers with a "ceremonial dagger," The

Steve Austin at the ill-fated "Over The Edge" pay-per-view in Kansas City, the night Owen Hart plummeted to his death.

His ankle injury, along with various other injuries, continued to plague him, but it was a groin injury that put him on the shelf in the summer of 1999. Just as he was about to return to action, a torn pec muscle put Calaway on the side-lines yet again, until he burst back on the scene on May's "Judgment Day" PPV. Gone was

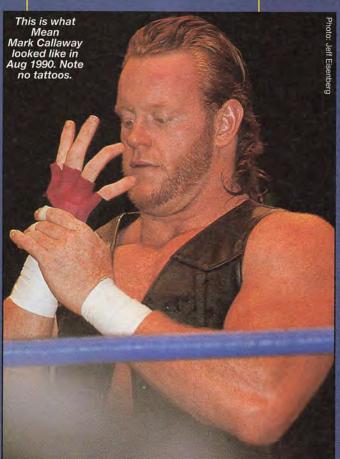
the zombie creature of the night. No more was The Undertaker invincible. Calaway made the biggest transformation of all after 10 WWF years. He became The American Bad Ass, a Harley-riding, leatherwearing, tobaccochewing street fighting

While some hardcore Undertaker fans have expressed disappointment in this radical change, most have embraced the new persona, totally into this All-American Bad Ass and all that he stands

We know who the Undertaker is but who is Mark Calaway? That is a much tougher question to answer. Fiercely private, we know he was born in Houston on or about late March of '62 or '65, depending upon who you consult. We also know he's tattooed all over his body,

yet entered the WWF with no tattoos, amassing his collection as a star. He recently had his new wife's name, Sara, tattooed across his throat. We know his real hair color is dark red. His eyes are green. His weight dips under and peaks over 300. About his height, he says, "I used to be about 6'10, but I've been dropped on my head a few times so I'm probably closer to 6'9"." He told this to TK-99, a Syracuse NY radio station a day before a Monster Truck guest appearance. "I'm about 335 pounds now," he commented on his weight.

Divorced from first wife Jodi reports vary from him being childless to having several children, a subject Calaway refuses to elaborate on. Those close to him say he has no children despite persistent rumors. A staunch preserver of his



Undertaker drew in his pledges by hypnotizing them and commanding their loyalty. The Undertaker, in his darkest days, teamed with "the Higher Power" Vince McMahon and used McMahon's daughter Stephanie. He stalked her, trapped her, and eventually "married her" in a forced black wedding which many Undertaker fans believe still stands today despite the fact that Stephanie went on to marry Triple H. The Undertaker dark "marriage" is not mentioned today on WWF television.

As part of the "Corporate Ministry," The Undertaker led a band of dark figures to overtake the WWF to become a superheel, yet still with a solid fan base that refused to turn their backs on him. Ironically, he won his third World Title 5/23/99 from Stone Cold

personal life, Calaway has no problem talking about his professional life. He cites his 10/97 Shawn Michaels cell match as his most memorable. It was, indeed, brutal and groundbreaking. He also feels that despite the more gruesome Mankind cell bout, his best work was with Michaels.

This reporter recently met with Calaway at a signing for the WWF Monster trucks in Weedsport, NY, his first public appearance as the American Bad Ass. Although I spent several hours with him, I learned very little. He was polite, friendly even, especially with children. At one point, a small boy broke out into tears when he approached Calaway but he soothed the child's fears and eventually signed the boy's shirt and left him with a smile. Although very quiet in public, his humor shined through as he cracked sly jokes and chatted with the fans. Still, it was obvious he was

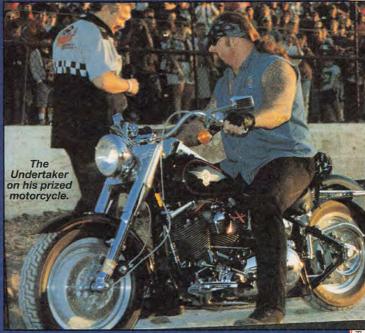
"I'm not 100% yet," he tells Wrestling World, "more like 75%, maybe 80%." We're sitting together on his much-needed break from the autograph signing. "I'm getting there though," he adds about his health. After riding a Harley (his own is a Titan) around the dirt track a few times to the cheers of the people in the stands, he conducts an Undertaker soundalike contest. This is where Calaway seems more in his element. He has the mic, the crowd is watching, he jokes with each impostor, and picks a winner by crowd applause. After several hours in the summer sun and heat, he retreats to his trailer, before bidding the two media people allowed to remain by his side for the entire day good bye. He has a crosscountry flight in the morning and he's looking forward to a good night's sleep. Despite a slight limp and obvious exhaustion, Calaway stops and chats with several people on his way to the car. "The Bad Ass is an extension of myself," he says. "Hey, it's the year 2000. This is not a change in persona but a transformation," he tells one reporter who follows him to the parking lot. "I believe I have the same fans and same support now that I always did, I've just taken

my character into the present. Indeed, The American Bad Ass is very much akin to Mark Calaway. He has been an avid biker for years and is taken very seriously in the locker room for his quiet strength and honesty.

"He pulls no punches, and says things like they are," says a WWF worker. "He doesn't have a short fuse but when that fuse does blow, watch out. He is one real tough SOB. Everybody respects him When the "Kliq" was big here, he was the only guy they respected outside of themselves." The Kliq consisted of Shawn Michaels, Kevin Nash (Diesel),

Scott Hall (Razor Ramon), Sean Waltman (The 1-2-3 Kid/X-Pac) and Paul Levesque (Hunter Hearst Helmsley) and they were a huge force in WWF.

Life for Calaway has been evolving since he started wrestling, but his recent rash of injuries and the compilation of years of bumping have slowed the big man down.



"After wrestling, I'll take a few years just to heal up. I'm kept together right now like an old Harley with bailing wire and duct tape and I'm gonna just take it easy for a while, then get on my bike and see where I end up," he said in the radio interview. However, he is nowhere near ready to lay low. He recently signed a multiyear contract extension with the WWF.

Calaway's life has evolved, just as his character has, and he is content with his married life and doing his best in the ring, with no aspirations of anything bigger. "I just want to be a wrestler," he once said and that holds true today. For The American Bad Ass, the change in persona was nowhere near as shocking to the fans as he expected. He readily admits he expected more strife when he returned on his bike. But the fans embraced The Phenom and he is going strong, chokeslamming his way through his matches and dealing with his injuries on a daily basis. When asked whether he liked being a heel or a fan favorite better, he replied," It doesn't matter to me. I just want to want to get in the ring and get it on.

So there it is. From the man himself. Calaway is right back in the top of the WWF card mix and shows no sign of slipping any time soon.

As Calaway steps into the waiting car to go to his hotel room, he turns to me with a slight grin. "Rest in Peace," he says as the car door shuts and the car pulls away. The Undertaker is, indeed, very much alive within The American Bad Ass.★



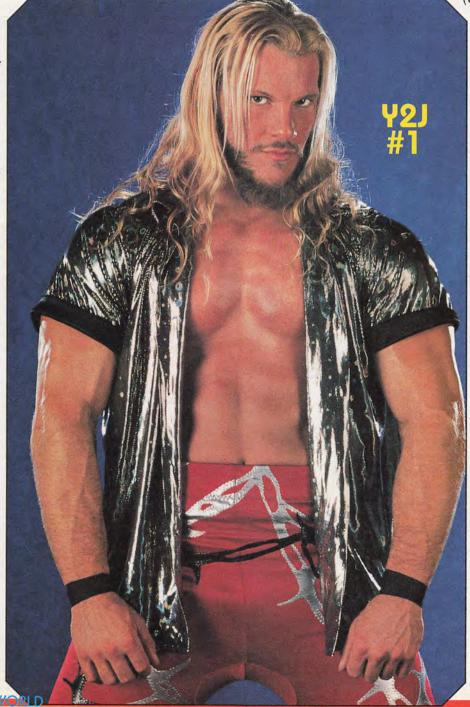
Patty Therre's Photos courtesy of WWF

Chris Jericho Voted The Hottest Wrestler In Tights Today By Female Fans.

he voting has been verv heavy for the inaugural "Who's Hot, Who's Not" Wrestling World "On The Fringe" column. It's amazing just how varied your tastes are when it comes to choosing the hottest wrestlers today. Variety truly is the spice of life and, judging from the pile of mail I have sitting here, variety definitely spices up the lives of female wrestling

In the interest of fairness, I decided to combine all three federations--WWF, WCW and ECW--into one comprehensive Hot list. Of course, I took the votes for the Not Hot guys the same way. The more votes against them, the higher they ranked.

WHO'S HOT #20. Undertaker (WWF). You liked his new persona and his badass ways. #19. 3 Count



(WCW). Some liked Sugar Shane, others went crazy for Shannon Moore, while still others thought Evan Karagias was the hottest thing going. So. I counted both separate and group votes, thus garnering 3 Count a square landing. #18. Rev Mysterio, Jr. (WCW). He's a little devil and you think he's cute. #17. Booker T. (WCW). Class, action, great looks, an underdog who made a dream come true. #16. Kurt Angle (WWF). It's true, it's true. Although most didn't like Kurt's persona, you had a hard time ignoring his good looks. So does Stephanie. #15. Raven.

Between feds

at presstime, Raven's a badboy who follows only his own rules, and gets votes no matter what.

#14. Bret Hart (WCW). Bret has always had a loyal fan base who stuck by him through thick and thin and his female fans obviously rallied to garner him this #14 spot.

#13. David Flair (WCW).

Unexpected. Flair got a good portion of votes from teenage girls who think he's the hottest guy in wrestling today!

#12. The Rock (WWF). Intoxicating! Rock is classy and yet has an edge to him that you obviously found very

appealing.

#11. Rob Van Dam (ECW). He's the whole F'n show in many of your opinions. Great ability and looks to match.

#10. Vampiro (WCW). The dark side turns you on. Vamp got a slew of votes from women who like their wrestlers offbeat, out of the ordinary, and Vampiro certainly fits that bill.

#9. Billy Kidman (WCW). He's been a female favorite for years. His ranking would've been higher but many women voted him as their second choice due to his hooking and unhooking up with Torrie Wilson.

#8. The Hardy Boyz (WWF). Jeff appeals to some while Matt is solidly in the hearts of others. Still, the voting was so close I put the two together and they came out a combined #8.

7. Buff Bagwell (WCW). He's the stuff-still. Although Buff is stuck in

nowheresville these days, you wrote that he is one hot Buff Daddy [probably because of his mom—-Ed.]

#6. Scott Hall (WCW).

Overwhelming response for someone who's been off television for SO many months. Hall is cool and that makes him hot.

#5. Kronic (WCW). You voted for these two as a team and what a hot team they are! Brian Clark received several votes on his own while Adams lagged a bit behind, yet together they accumulated enough for their rather lofty #5 position. #4. Kevin Nash (WCW). He's the big sexy, all right, and, at presstime, WCW champion. Nash still has it. You still want it.

#3. Triple H (WWF). Whether he's a good guy or bad guy, Triple H seems to have caught your attention in a big way. He was only a dozen votes away from the #2 spot.

#2. Sting (WCW). A perennial favorite, Sting nearly edged out the #1 choice but slipped back at the

end of the voting. Sting will always be very close to the top when it comes to women fans. Their loyalty to this painted heartthrob has yet to abate. TRIPLE H

#1. Chris Y2J Jericho (WWF)! Chris garnered the most votes of any one wrestler to make him your choice as the hottest wrestler on television today. Citing his great looks, amazing ability to get over as funny one moment and deathly serious the next, and his in-ring ability, you voted Chris as the new Mr. Wrestling World Fringe 2000. Congrats, Chris!

But there is so much more! There are a distinct group of wrestlers who fell just short of making it to the Hot List and I call these the

"Lukewarm" wrestlers. They garnered enough votes to be considered pretty warm, if not hot, and so, I have created a category just for them. Starting with the "hottest" warm wrestler and going to the one who was only a few votes short of landing in the freeze zone, here are the runners up: WHO'S WARM:

#1. Chris Benoit (WWF). Only eight votes more and he would've edged out Undertaker for a spot on the HOT list. Chris is all business and he has a body to die for, or at least turn on the air conditioner for. #2. Edge and Christian (WWF). Voted for as a group only, these two got their fair share of votes. You liked their heelish commentary and their talent as well as their

#3. Disco Inferno (or whomever he's passing himself off as today, WCW). Disco has long been recognized as a nicelooking guy in polyester clothes. Now, trying his hand at being cool, Disco still comes off as the square pegs. Still, you thought enough of him to give him almost enough votes to land in the HOT spot.

#4. Too Cool (WWF). Scotty Too Hotty and Grand Master Sexay are hot enough to be voted on but not quite hot enough to make it to the coveted list. Still, those who voted were adamant these two are the best in

the biz in every way.

#5. Goldberg (WCW). He's almost barbaric yet has an appeal that can't be overlooked. Several readers voted for "Bill Goldberg in eans" as opposed to him in the ring. You seem to like the man's looks but not the wrestler's actions. #6. Jeff Jarrett (WCW). The Chosen one wasn't chosen by you as being hot but enough of you out there voted for him to give him honorable mention, citing his Southern accent, attitude and blue eyes. #7. Juventud Guerrera (WCW). Almost too pretty, Juvi was held back by his lack of any real ringwork these days and lack of exposure at press time. Still, he has a solid following.

#8. Bradshaw (WWF). You love the APA and you really like the big cowboy who does dirty deeds (and does them dirt cheap). Bradshaw

was the favorite of all cowboy-loving female fans.

#9. Eddie Guerrero (WWF). Latino Heat, maybe, but he didn't get enough votes to heat up the HOT list. Still, you like him for his atypical good looks and definite talent. #10. Scott Steiner (WCW). He's gorgeous! He's frightening! Those were the basic two responses I got when reading the votes. Steiner is way too pumped up to be on some Hot lists and just right for others. It's all a matter of taste and Scotty Steiner has nothing to worry about here. He has plenty of freaks voting for him. to keep him at least warm. #11. Kanyon (WCW). You either

thought he was the goofiest character around or the coolest. Kanyon got a lot of votes based on his ability to keep you amused and also his everchanging good looks.

#12. The Perfect Event (WCW). Shawn Stasiak and Chuck Palumbo may still be rookies in the ring but you sure noticed them. While they weren't near the top of the voting, they got enough

thumbs-up to make their way to the Warm list which isn't bad considering the number of

wrestlers who were in the running.

#13. Shane McMahon (WWF). Not really a wrestler but was voted on by so many of you that he landed solidly in the Warm section. A pretty good feat for daddy's little boy, huh? You thought his energy, his ability, and his big brown eyes were enough to make

him at least warm.

#14. The Demon (WCW). Dale Torborg would've ranked higher but he's only on the fence of walking on the dark side and, despite his cool entrance music and make-up. you're waiting to see if The Demon comes into his own or drifts into

obscurity.

#15. Kane (WWF), The mystery, the underdog, the muscles. You like Kane and don't mind a man in a mask one bit

#16. Kid Kash (ECW). Young, wild and crazy! You like Kash and want to see more of this daredevil before anchoring him in the top 20. Still, a good showing for a young superstar in the making.

#17. Rhino (ECW). He's big, he's bad, and, yeah, he's crazy as all hell. Yet you like him. Conversely, Rhino also got a few Not Hot votes, but the tally says Rhino is considerably warmer than he is cold so he lands respectively in the Warm. #18. Lance Storm (WCW). If I can be serious for a moment, Storm is starting to grow

on you and, despite his robotic ways, his talent is amazing and his sly, serious commentary is

Stevie Richards of old miss his long hair and short shorts. Still, he has enough fans to see past his censorious gimmick to give him kudos on a job well done. He definitely makes a lot of heat in the arenas, just not as much as he once did when he was superkicking his foes while in the Blue World Order.

OK, the time has come. Wrestlers, you realize this is merely a tonguein-cheek look at your personas and outer appearance. Some men on this list are goodlooking but their personalities get in the way of the female fans seeing them as anything but decidedly NOT HOT! Last time I made one of these lists, I got a huge chokeslam for my efforts. Still, this is the reader's choice awards and these are the your votes. (That means don't hate the playa, hate the game, guys, go after

the fans, not me this time!) Here we go with your picks for this year's Not Hot list, listed in order of warmest to coldest, with the #1 spot being given to the man you voted as the least hot man in all of

wrestling. **NOT HOT** #15. The Cat (WCW). Even

though Ernest Miller has gone from totally annoying to just mildly annoying as WCW Commissioner, you still

indicated that you cringe when he comes to the ring to wrestle. If the Commish would keep his

suits on and his mouth closed, who knows where he may have ended up on the lists.

#14. Shane Douglas (WCW). Voted not for his looks but his annoying personality, Douglas comes off as a crazed egomaniac. He won no points with his comments about Ric Flair over the years

as well.

#13. Hulk Hogan (WCW?). Readers voted for Hogan as Not Hot for a variety of reasons, including his trademark black beard with yellow mustache combo. Although Hogan is in limbo at the moment, he hasn't been forgotten by the female readers. To his credit, he did receive a few votes as the hottest wrestler going so he hasn't lost all his steam!

almost (I said ALMOST) endearing. #19. Mike Awesome (WCW). At first hated by many of you for his actions in and out of the ring when he first entered WCW, Awesome is earning a place in your hearts by working hard and showing his talent. Now if he would just get a cool hair cut!

#20. Steven Richards (WWF). This guy had only seven votes more than what would've slid him into the Not Hot section, but was somehow saved by a last minute rush of votes. Those who fondly recall the

#12. X-Pac (WWF), Although Sean Waltman has some badboy appeal, many readers are bored by his persona which has stagnated lately.

The gals also don't like his affiliation with Tori. X-Pac needs to get back to his wicked wild ways and get the women interested once again.

#11. Perry Saturn (WWF). He's just

plain scary these days and the women fans, even those who love the wild ones. couldn't find it in their heart to vote Saturn into the Hot or even Warm list.

#10. New Jack (ECW). It's not his looks, it's his persona! Or is it a persona? New Jack is scary and brutal and the women just don't like what they

#9. Tank Abbott (WCW). Although Tank can be funny at times, the women don't see him as an object of desire. #8. The Big Show (WWF). Uh oh, I refrain from comment. The last time he landed in the Not Hot list, he went looking for me and not to thank me for mentioning him in a national magazine. Still, you voted for him stating that he has a lack of charisma and lumbers around like a big bear in the ring. #7. The Great

Muta (WCW).

Although he is a legend in Japan and a wonderfulmat wrestler, Muta is scoring no points with the ladies. His face paint, which looks after a match eerily like Mrs. Doubtfire's face after the famous cake scene, and his grunting and groaning instead of talking,

landed him in the chilly zone.

#6. Tazz (WWF). You think he is great in the ring and his heelish persona works well but as a lust object, Tazz falls way short. Most of you stated the fringed black towel he wears to the ring as a major

#5. Terry Funk (WCW). Another leaend who is great in the ring and a

me to put him on

the Not Hot list. We have seen way too much way too often of Mark Madden! His sexist comments only reinforce the fact that you want him on this list, and you want him here

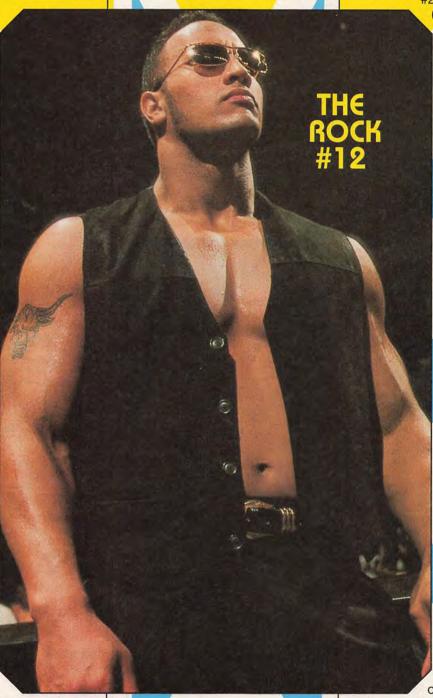
#3. Roadkill (ECW). You think Roadkill looks exactly like his name.

#2. Sal E. Graziano (ECW). He's big, he's sloppy, he's Sal E. and you would rather NOT see him on TV, especially after a big meal. And the #1 wrestler you picked as the biggest turnoff on TV is (drumroll please) Viscera (WWF). Formerly Mable, Viscera is scary and freaky looking. The big man in the long coat seems to lack charisma AND personality. You voted him-by quite a large margin—as the one man who makes your skin crawl and your temperature plummet!

Comments? Suggestions? Criticisms? Send them to me at and I will address them in a future column. Luckily for female fans, we can look at wrestling as objectively as we want and we can also sit back and enjoy the view. Does that make us any less knowledgeable? Hell no! It gives us a 10to-1 advantage over the male fans who have to wait to go hormonal until Major Gunns, Trish Stratus or Dawn Marie strut

out into the ring. Congratulations once again to one of the fastest shooting stars in wrestling today: Chris Jericho!! He can add this to his many accomplishments this year.

Until next time, remember: Your future is where destiny and fate meet.★



turnoff outside of it. His striped tights remind you of a barbershop pole gone mad. The years of brutality have taken their toll.

#4. Mark Madden (WCW). Although not technically a wrestler, Madden has been in the ring a few times and I was flooded with votes begging

lat

Dear WW, I liked your Top 20 Heavyweight Champions of all time, only it should've been Ric Flair #1, Hulk Hogan #2. Also, you left out Kevin Nash, HHH, DDP, Sting, Randy Savage, Big Van Vader, Lex Luger, Yokozuna, The Undertaker, Sid Vicious, The Ultimate Warrior and Sgt. Slaughter. Thanks for your time. Keep up the good work.

> A Big Fan, Brian Illinois

Dear WW,

I think there should be less stuff on The Rock and more on Stone Cold Steve Austin, Y2J, Undertaker and women wrestlers. The Rock just wears nasty clothes and slaps instead of wrestling.

> Rebecca Bradford New York

Dear WW.

Mick Foley, Dusty Rhodes and Buddy Rogers did not belong on your Top 20 Heavyweight Champions of Alltime. Hulk Hogan may be the most influential, but as a mat technician, he doesn't belong either. Bret Hart and Bob Backlund belong in the Top 7. Bret, especially, was the most gifted mat wrestler ever! Eventually, I see Goldberg and The Rock rocketing up the list. And if Steve Austin has another reign as champ that should keep him in the Top 10 for a decade or so.

> Steven Guardala New York

Dear WW,

Wrestling in the year 2000 sucks. I've been watching pro wrestling since 1975. Hulk Hogan made wrestling, and is now destroying it! The New World Order sucks. There's too much gang violence in wrestling. What hap-pened to wrestlers going one-on-one? miss Sable.

> Robert L. Medina, Jr. New Jersey

Dear WW.

I love wrestling very much and the WCW is my favorite. Bret Hart is the best.

> Erica Monique Losoya **New Mexico**

Dear WW.

My favorite wrestler is Kevin Nash. I've loved him since he wrestled as Diesel. Can you put in a picture of him when he was Diesel? Thanks.

> Patti Gahagan British Columbia, Canada

Dear WW.

Wrestling should be wrestling and not nude women and constant nasty stories. I also would like to say that Steve Austin is not a good role model for kids. Bret Hart is. More Bret Hart!

> Aaron S. Fletcher Missouri

Dear WW,

I greatly enjoyed your recent articles on California's Xtreme Pro Wrestling and New Jersey's Combat Zone Wrestling which appeared in the December 2000 issue. I wish to write to some of the personalities affiliated with those federations but I have been unable to locate the addresses. Could you please help me?

> Adam Wilcox USA



Kevin Nash as Diesel

Dear Adam, You can write to XPW, 16140 Leadwell St., Van Nuys, CA 9146. You can write to CZW, P.O. Box 5286, Deptford, N.J. 08096.-Ed.

Dear WW,

Why are interesting women such as Daphne or Lita pushed out of the way for bimbos like Major Gunns and Trish Stratus?

> Chris Lett Ohio

Dear WW.

Extreme wrestling should be for adults only and carry an NC-17 rating like in the movies. It also seems to be blood for the sake of blood. It is just another reason for parents to properly learn how to raise their kids.

Danno Forsyth

Dear WW.

I like your new format but I think you should be monthly, not bi-monthly. You should also expand and put out a bigger issue with more pages. The only suggestion I have is to bring back "Pen Pal Alley" because that's how I started writing my numerous pen pals.

> **David Salisbury** Alabamá

Dear WW,

Ever since March of last year, my friends and I have had our own wrestling called Back Yard Wrestling (BYW). We have the following championship titles—Light Heavyweight, TV title, Hardcore title (which is 24/7), Women title, Intercontinental, Tag Team and World title. Our current champions are Blizzard (light heavy), Exterminator (TV), Blondy (hardcore), Blonde (women), The Hulksters, Blade and HotStuff (tag) and I'm the world champ (Blade).

We have all kinds of different matches like one-on-one, tag, three-on-three, four-on-four, cage, lumberjack, strap, hardcore, "I Quit," two-out-of-three falls, Iron Man, Triple Threat, Triangle and all-out rumbles.

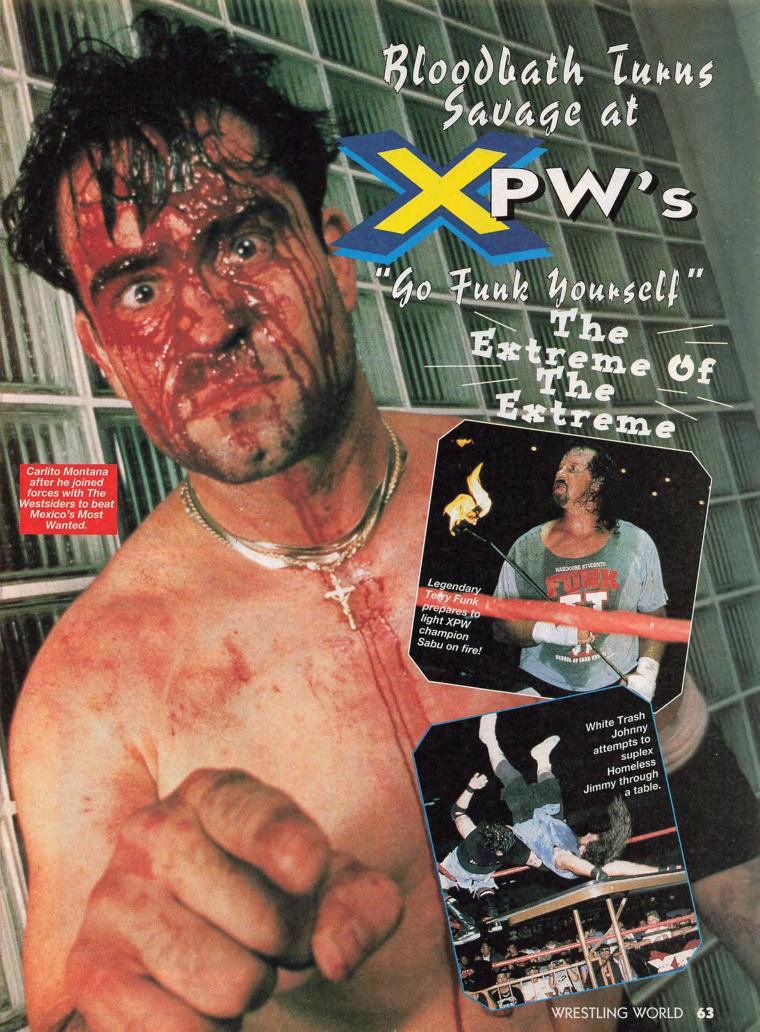
We wrestle once a week at my friend's house. The show is called "Tuesday Showdown." Our wrestlers are between the ages of five and 13. So far it's been great.

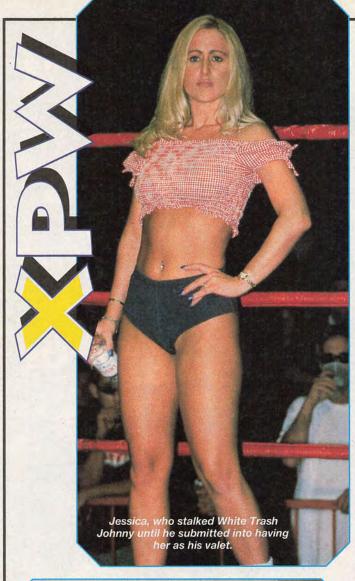
> Blade Michigan

Dear Blade. Don't hurt yourself, ok?-Ed.

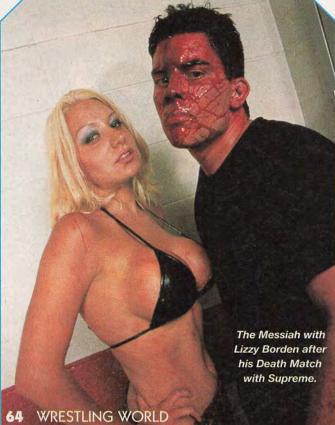
If the WCW wants to be #1, it needs more talented wrestlers.

> Antwain Love Illinois*





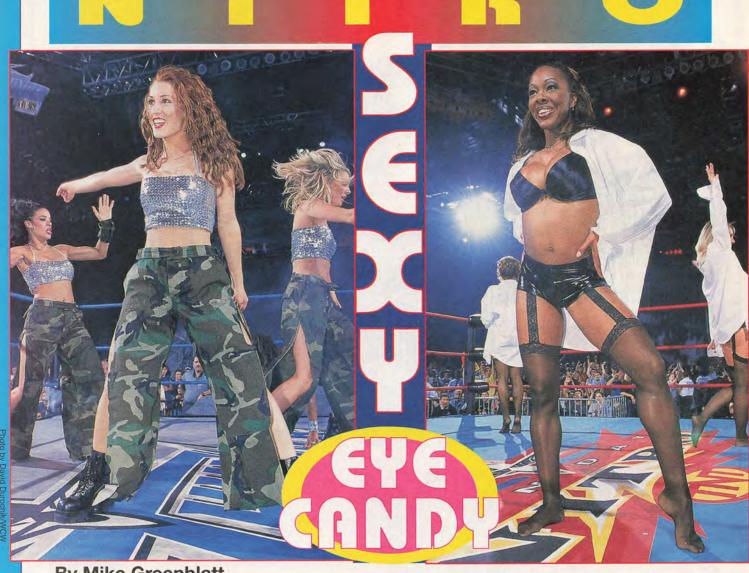






Homeless Jimmy brought a gang of streetkids into the ring with him when he prepared to face White Trash Johnny.





By Mike Greenblatt

he sexiest thing about WCW's Monday Ntiro is, of course, those obscenely under-utilized Nitro Girls. Man, I could just visualize in my mind's eye what must be going on during the commercials. Why doesn't the WCW see fit to televise them more often? It stands to reason that if you've got something good, you should go with it. C'mon WCW, let's see more of the Nitro girls! Recently, we spoke with Nitro Girls Chaguita and Syren.

Wrestling World: What exactly are your responsibilities during *Nitro*? Chaquita: We open up the show with a 10-minute routine called "Get Naked."

WW: Do you get naked?
C: Well, we mostly wear like little pants, these chaps, that we rip off, and we have baby t-shirts that we also rip off and throw to the fans. The pants we keep. We also have all sorts of nice shiny bra and panties. We're there to warm up the crowd and to keep the energy level

going throughout the show. We're eye candy.

WW: Do you like doing that?
C: I love it. I've been performing and dancing for 15 years. The crowds are so into our outfits, they like what we're doing and I like our interaction with the crowd.

Syren: I love it too. I've never really wanted to do anything other than dance. I've never taken a strong interest in acting or singing, just dance. I would be open to anything only if it's going to open doors for me and give me more exposure. I've been dancing since I was eight! All the Nitro girls have studied different styles. I've studied ballet, jazz, acrobatics and hiphop, which is mostly the style we use.

WW: What was it like that very first time you stepped into a wrestling ring to dance?

S: I was definitely nervous because from a technical viewpoint, you're dancing on something that's bouncing, so you could actually lose your balance and fall down at any moment. Also I was nervous if the crowd would like me or not.

WW: Do you ever get to interact
with any of the wrestlers within storylines?

rylines?
C: Yeah. We had a house show yesterday in Albuquerque New Mexico where we actually did a skit with 3 Count and Tank Abbott. We were in the middle of performing one of our opening numbers, and 3 Count came out and interrupted us! Everybody hates Three Count. We were so upset at being interrupted, the crowd was booing and Tank Abbott, who's our biggest fan, ran out, threw 3 Count out, and started to dance with us!

S: A couple times I did a piece with with Billy Kidman. They had him in a "Viagra On A Pole" match. The loser had to eat a bottle of Viagra. He was the loser so he ate the Viagra and after the match they had the Nitro girls flirting with him and asking him if he could take all of us back to our hote! Another time, when they first introduced Reno, they wrote me into the storyline as his girlfriend. We had to argue with

him asking me, "Where were you the other night?" It was after the whole Billy Kidman Viagra thing. I liked doing it, more than I thought I would. I had never really acted up until that point so I was kinda nervous. I felt at the time, to be totally truthful, that I was being thrown into it, and I didn't know how well I would be able to do it. I didn't want to suck at it, y'know? [laughing] So, it was just a little nerve-wrack-

WW: What's that noise in the back-

ground? C: Oh that's just The Cat. He's always trying to disrupt my interviews. [to The Cat] Shut up and read your Modern Bride magazine. I don't why he loves Modern Bride magazine so much. Reads the damn thing every month! [laughing] He's a freak. He's actually one of my favorites. Really nice, such a sweetheart. When I first started here last December, everyone was really nice to me. I had watched the show prior to auditioning and I thought everyone was going to be mean but they're not. You can ask them anything, any question, and they're there. It's so good.

WW: How does Nitro Girl Spice treat you? Is Spice nice?

when I was watching Nitro, she was my favorite dancer, such blonde hair, so very animated. WW: Do any of the wrestlers or fans try to come on to you after the

C: Oh yeah, really nice. Actually,

show?

C: The fans really don't try and get with you, they mostly just want

autographs and pictures, so that's cool, 'cause you never get too big to say thank you. I know without them, I wouldn't have a job. After every show we let fans take pictures with us. As far as the wrestlers, no, they're cool. I'm getting married in November, anyway, and they keep asking me everything and they're really excited for me. They're cool about that too. S: No, not really. They're all very friendly, though. I mean, most of the wrestlers, you wouldn't think so, but a lot of them are married and they all have children. Everybody's friendly, everybody's nice, and we're all around

each other all the time. There's communication, but I wouldn't say any hitting on. C: I've had no problems, no. The only problem I have is Cat, 'cause he's more like a brother type, just worrisome, and that's it. Everyone else is really really WW: How much rehears-

ing does all this take? S: Usually, a typical day is either getting up super-early or leaving late the night before a show and flying to the city where we're going to be performing, check-ing into the

hotel, getting

some rest, and

then going to the venue. We

usually have to get to the actual venue maybe five hours before the show starts. We rehearse, view the pre-tapes, and

> run to the catering! We have catering at all the shows, so that's a big thing, every-body's always like "How's catering today? Is catering good?" That's how we remember cities, too, "Oh yeah, Denver, we like Denver, they had good catering, y'know? [laughing] Then after we rehearse we go to hair and makeup and get worked on there and get into our costumes and by that time the show's usually ready to start. C: We fly in



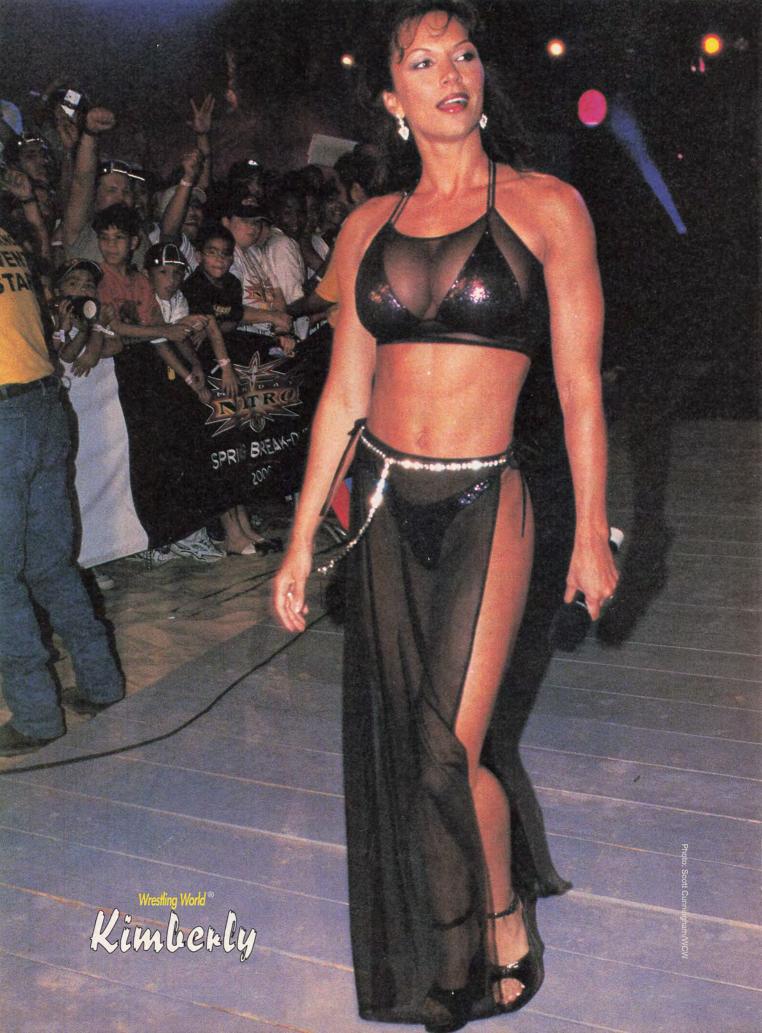
Sunday, rehearse four hours, get to the arena Monday, rehearse another hour and a half. Tuesday we also rehearse about an hour-and-a-half. Sometimes routines are pre-taped and we get video overnighted to us so we can learn the moves.

S: The one dance job where we really rehearsed a lot was when Chaquita and I danced for the Philadelphia 76ers [basketball team]. I did that for two years. We would have really grueling intense rehearsals, at least three times a week, and each rehearsal would last for three hours nonstop, hardly any breaks. The rehearsals we have here aren't as bad. The difference, though, is traveling. Travel takes its toll on your body. It wears

you out. WW: Does all the WCW business craziness scare you? Are you afraid of losing your job?
C: No, not really. The fans always like us. We always get good crowd response. Our Internet response is also very good, as are all of the WCW surveys. I feel secure. Of course, though, just as with any regular 9 to 5 job, you just never know. Hey, as long as I get my travel itinerary on Wednesday, I know I'm still good with the girls. S: Me neither. I know it's kinda crazy now, but before I got this job, I had finished school a few months earlier, moved out to Los Angeles

Continued on page 84

Photo by Garrett Ellwood/WCW



Tribute

Gordon Solie, 1929-2000

The Voice of Pro Wrestling

Words and Images by Dr. Mike Lano

ordon Solie, whose realistic calling of wrestling matches for so many promotions over four decades, died July 28th at the age of 71 at his home in New Port Richey, FL after a lengthy battle with throat cancer that had spread

to his brain. The fact that his voice was his life, didn't stop him from going out with friends just a few weeks prior to his death, even if he had to use an electronic voicebox.

Solie began announcing wrestling in '50s Florida, later gaining fame on TV's Georgia Championship Wrestling (later World Championship

Wrestling). His credible call of the matches, and dead-serious delivery earned him the nickname of "The Walter Cronkite of Pro Wrestling Announcers."

Ted Turner never forgot Gordon Solie helping make WTBS cable's first Superstation success, keeping him on the payroll until he was out of the Time-Warner merger loop. Turner often praised Solie publicly, as a fan and a friend, but Solie was also a real friend to the entire wrestling business, proving, in '76, that primetime cable wrestling could still draw ratings.

Born 1/26/29 in Minneapolis, MN, he moved to Tampa after a 1950 Air Force stint. As a radio announcer, his responsibilities included various pro wrestling functions. Cowboy Luttral, a top Florida promoter, hired him to ring announce, a task Solie excelled at for a decade before getting the call-up to become the main television announcer for Championship Wrestling From Florida, syndicated throughout the northeast. Over the

next 27 years, he helped make stars, calling matches for Eddie Graham, Dean's dad The Great Malenko, Hiro Matsuda, Thunderbolt Patterson, Mr. Wrestling I and II, the Briscos, Funks, Jake Roberts, and Dusty Rhodes, who, along with Andre,

From Left: Marc Mero, Gordon Solie, and Dory Funk

became the biggest touring star of the '70s.

Ole Anderson, Wahoo McDanial, Tommy Rich, Buzz Sawyer and Masked Superstar are only some of those he helped. His show consistently had the highest ratings during its alltime lengthy broadcast streak. Once it was replaced briefly by WWF programming in the mid '80s. Solie later returned to 1989 TBS success for Ted Turner's NWA Saturday show. Solie always called the matches seriously, with dignity and respect for the wrestlers as athletes. Whereas Steve Allen and Dennis James would make their own sound effects during headlocks by breaking chicken bones into the microphone and hamming it up, Solie played it straight, changing the way wrestling announcing would forever be called. Today, you can hear traces of Solie in the announcing style of Jim Ross. Ross, in fact, in a video sent to Solie's funeral, expressed respect for his mentor. Solie had unique verbal

gifts to make matches feel legit. He logically explained holds and submission moves, why they were painful, and which body part they could injure. Without becoming falsely animated, he called the bouts and interviewed the boys with just the right athletic tone, much like

baseball and basketball announcers. He treated the job seriously, and so became world-respected. I had the pleasure of serving on the Board of Directors of the Cauliflower Alley Club with him. I will never forget his moving introduction for Buddy Rogers, or his own award acceptance speech when honored in 1996, or his impassioned goodbye letter to his fans and friends, read at his funeral.

He would later co-host the nationally syndicated *Pro*

Wrestling This Week, finally retiring in 1995. He worked hard, he lived hard, he partied hard. Solie drank and smoked excessively. And he was never the same after his wife died. He had battled throat cancer since last year, losing his voicebox but not his spirit. He had been scheduled to be the lead announcer on last year's "Heroes Of Wrestling" PPV but was physically unable to make the show.

He cancelled a party planned in his honor for August 5th, friends saying he knew the end was near once he'd been told the cancer had spread to his brain. There will never be an announcer with the love for wrestling, the respect, the credibility that Gordon Solie had.

He's survived by his kids Pam, Ginard, Eric and Greg. The family requests donations to either the Hospice of Pasco County and/or the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranch in lieu of flowers.

As Solie would always say, "So long from both the Sunshine and Peach States."★



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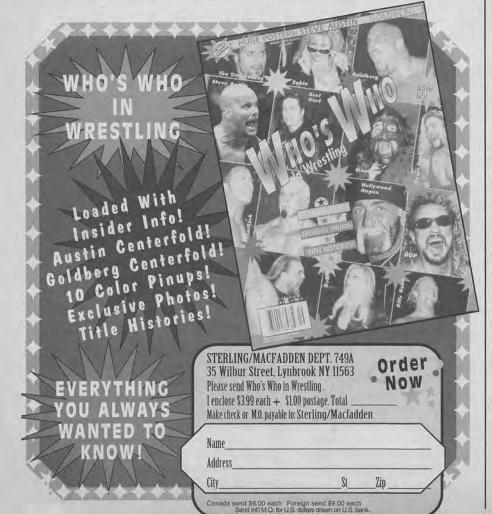
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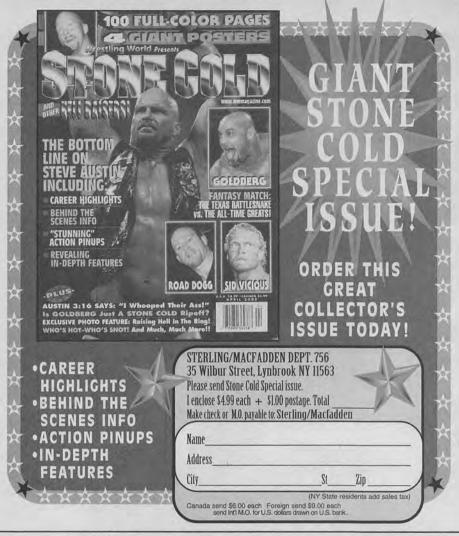


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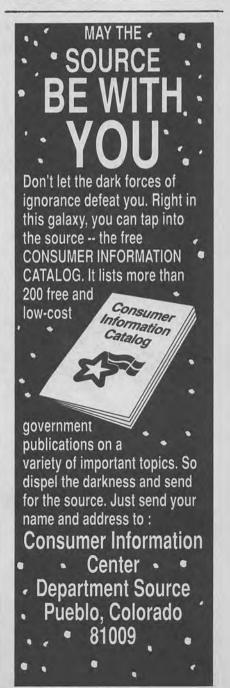
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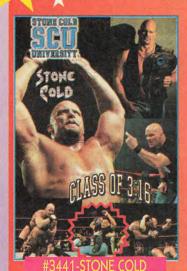


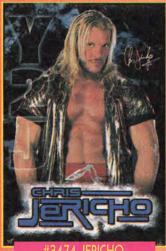
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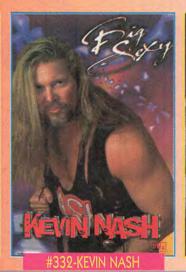


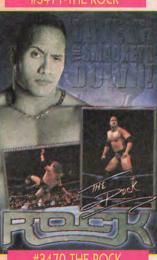


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iss Honcock A Real Sweetheart

elieve it or not, you may have been familiar with the supersexy Stacy "Miss Hancock" Kiebler for quite some time and just not realize it. Watch NFL football? If so, there is a strong likelihood the first time you eyed stunning Stacy was when she shook her pom-poms as part of the Baltimore

Ravens cheerleading squad.
Not particularly tuned in to pigskin? Well, you probably still caught Ms. K earlier than you think. Remember when WCW was running the "Become A New Nitro Girl" contest? To refresh readers' memories, women were invited to send try-out tapes to WCW head-quarters. Each Monday thereafter, a video montage of the top submissions from a region would air on Nitro, then the two highest-rated hopefuls would be presented live to drum up viewer support.

As you probably quessed by now, Stacy was one of those finalists, making her WCW debut when the Nitro caravan rolled into Philadelphia in 1999. In fact, the blonde beauty not only qualified, she was among the lucky handful

who made the dynamic dance team. Oddly enough, after making such a big fuss about selecting a second squad of shapely senoritas, the new crew was pushed far into the background--much to the chagrin of male viewers everywhere. The original dancers were marketed perfectly. We knew all their names. We had our personal favorites (Hooray for Chael). The announcers acknowledged the gals and treated them respectfully. Now, they get next to no TV time and, unless you visited the website, you'd have no clue who was whom.

This bonehead business decision was trumped by an even more confounding conception, one that transformed the ladies from choreographed kittens to catfighters. It was a disaster all around. The bits looked amateurish, the anticipated ratings boost never materialized, and most of the women were very uncomfortable in their new roles.

One dancer, though, thrived on the attention and seemed to enjoy instigating trouble amongst

the troops. When a pro-censorship group came down on Leni & Lodi, conniving Kiebler saw the situation as an opportunity to further stir things up and get individual face time on national TV. Reinventing herself as Miss Hancock, the mischieveous minx began appearing at ringside during the matches of the West Hollywood

Blonds.
In her new persona, Miss
Hancock looked like a longlegged librarian, what with her
nerdy eyeglasses, buttonedtight collar, pulled-up hair and
clipboard. Nonetheless, it didn't take a Sherlock Holmes to
uncover the clues indicating

Hancock was hardly a wallflower. If her skirt were any shorter, she'd have two more cheeks to powder! Pretending to be a moral crusader on behalf of Standards & Practices--a forerunner of Stevie

Practices--a forerunner of Stevie Richards' current WWF schtick--it soon became abundantly clear Miss Hancock's "prim and proper" routine was a ruse--especially when she started jumping on the

e started jumping on the announcer table to bump and grind. Care for her personally or not, there's no denying the 5'11" dazzler is quite a formidable distraction.

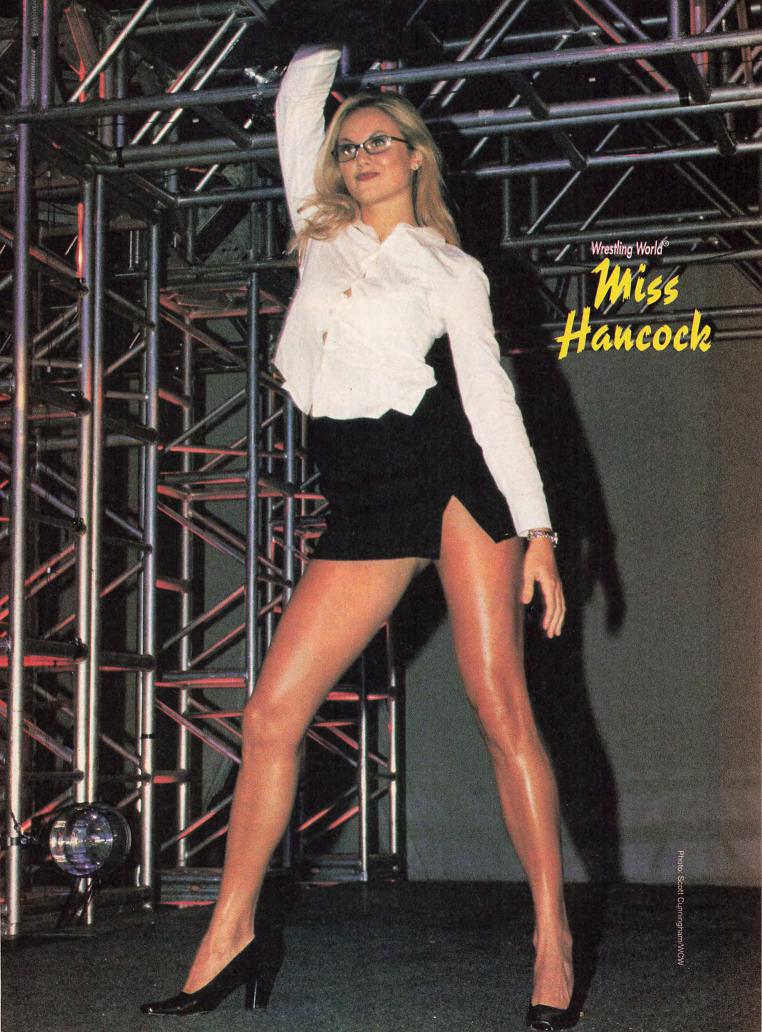
Apparently, though, disrupting male members of the WCW roster wasn't enough. First, it was Kimberly Page with whom Hancock had heat. But Kim had higher-priority fish to fry--like ditching DDP--and didn't provide the troublemaker with the amount of attention she sought.

Intrigued by the odd relationship between Daffney and David Flair, Hancock just couldn't resist butting into the dizzy duo's business. True to form, sneaky Stacy wasn't satisfied messing with Daff's daffy mind--she wanted to steal the Nature Boy's boy away from the valet too!

In the midst of this premarital mayhem, MIA's Major Gunns also had a score to settle. The result was the ROTC (Rip Off The Clothes) ruckus on the August 13th pay-perview event. Slopping around in a mud pit, the contest came to a screeching halt when a Gunns gut shot sent Stacy to the hospital, making reference to "losing the baby."

Many eyebrows were raised at the "remarkable" recovery the "injured" Hancock made, appearing 100-percent fit when she walked the aisle on *Nitro* the very next night. After implying a miscarriage 24 hours earlier, Flair's filly informed him "I'm pregnant,

David."
Overwhelmed with what he thought was great news, gullible Dave invited his squeeze in-ring on the following Thunder. As he was beginning to propose marriage, Sgt. AWOL laid Flair out for manhandling the Major earlier. How concerned was Stacy over her "love's" condition? She picked his pocket for the engagement ring and left him KO'D on the canvas! What a sweetheart, eh?★



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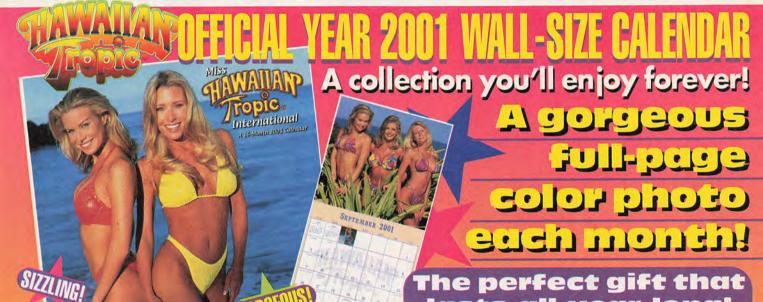
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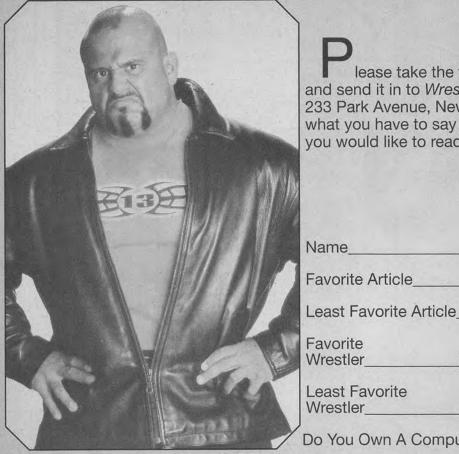
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Wrestler



Tazz says, "Fill out the ballot or I'll come to your house and beat up your mother!" Photo:

lease take the time to fill out the ballot on this page and send it in to Wrestling World, c/o Sterling Macfadden, 233 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10003. We will listen to what you have to say and we will write about the wrestlers vou would like to read about.

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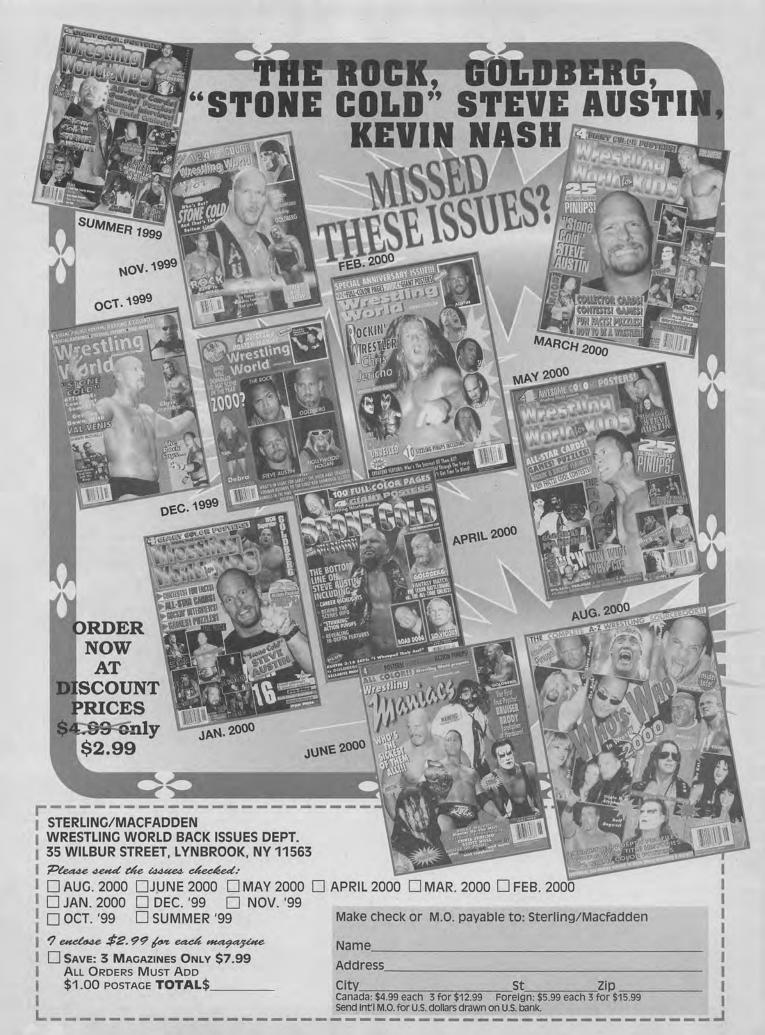
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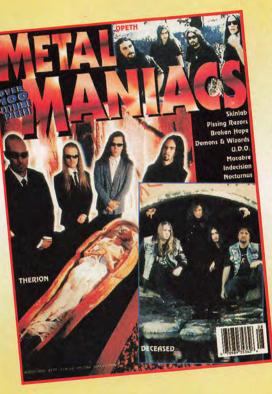


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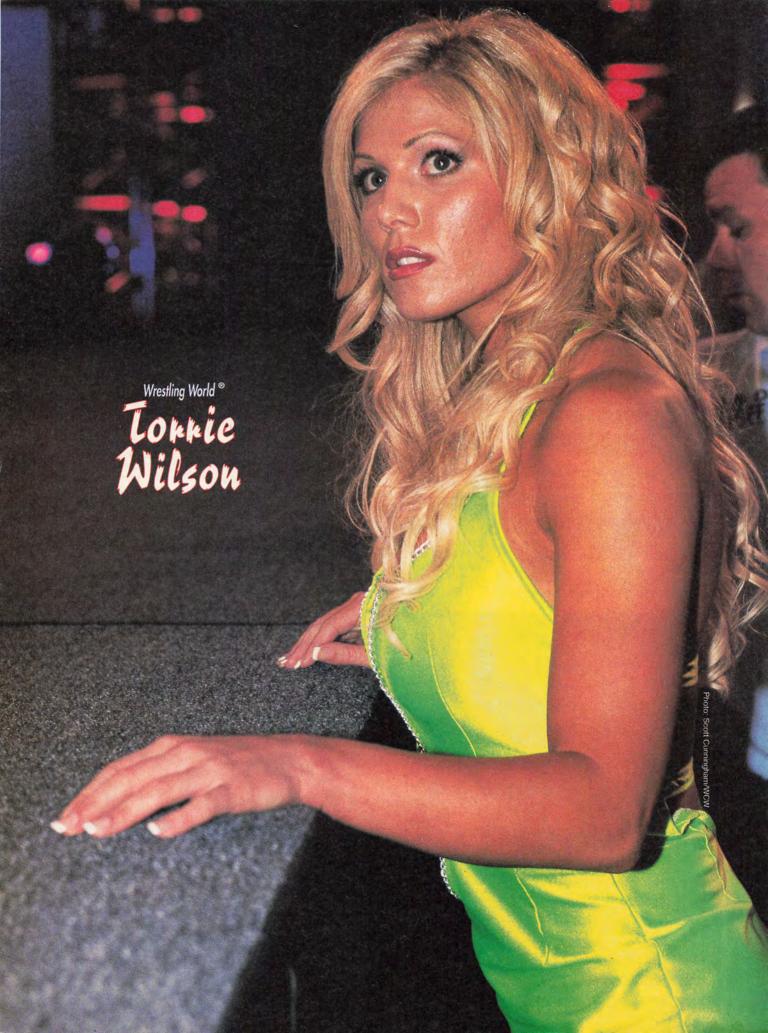


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From:



Continued from page 67



from Philly, was just waitressing, not knowing what was going to happen, and trying to pursue dance. Nothing seemed to be coming through and I thought, "I really want to travel, maybe I'll become a flight attendent," and don't you know it, I ended up getting this gig, and it's great, now I have the best of both worlds, 'cause I'm dancing all the time now and I'm traveling all the time, so it worked out! **WW:** What about the future?

S: I would love to stay with WCW for at least two or three more years. I think I will start to take some acting classes, because dancers have a relatively short lifespan, only because it's so physical and it's so taxing on your body. I was also thinking of becoming a Hollywood talent agent.

WW: Do you have any aspirations to do any wrestling yourself?

S: Not me.

C: At first I did, but all the girls told me how difficult it is. Of course, they have an awesome teacher in Madusa [a former champion] but they all complain about how hard it is. Madusa's really nice too. She wants you to be good. She wants you to be the best. Some of the things those girls do, though, I don't know if I could pull that off. Right now I love being a dancer. I love

entertaining.

WW: Taking a bump is a little different than dancing

C: Oh, taking a bump is a lot different, let me tell you. I mean, because, even when you jump on the turnbuckles, it's high up. It looks like it's not that high but it is! Especially for someone who's afraid of heights. You got somebody like Kevin Nash, a powerbomber, and you know it's a long way down! laughs

WW: Have you ever had any embarrassing situations in the ring? C: Yes, I had two of them. My hair caught on fire! It was the Wednesday when Vince [Russo] and Eric [Bischoff] came back. We had a huge meeting to go over what was going to take place. They had these pyros. Well, I was standing right by the ring where the pyro went off! The ashes came down and the sparks got in my hair! Nitro Girl Baby patted my hair down and moved me away from the sparks. The other embarrassing time was when I was dancing in the ring and getting huge response, the fans whistling and screaming, really up on their feet. I looked down and my boobs had fallen out! Luckily it was-n't on the air, but still! I mean, one was in and one was out. So what are you going to do? I just kept dancing. The show must go on. [laughs] I just tucked that boob right on back in and kept on dancing! **WW:** Are your breasts so big that they can't be contained or was it a costuming thing?

: Well, I am a 36D, so... WW: I guess the fans got a nice eveful.

C: They got a huge eyeful. Luckily I

was facing the stage so mostly the people in front of me saw it, not the people behind me or to my right or left, so that was pretty good. Just the people I was facing

WW: How long do you think it was

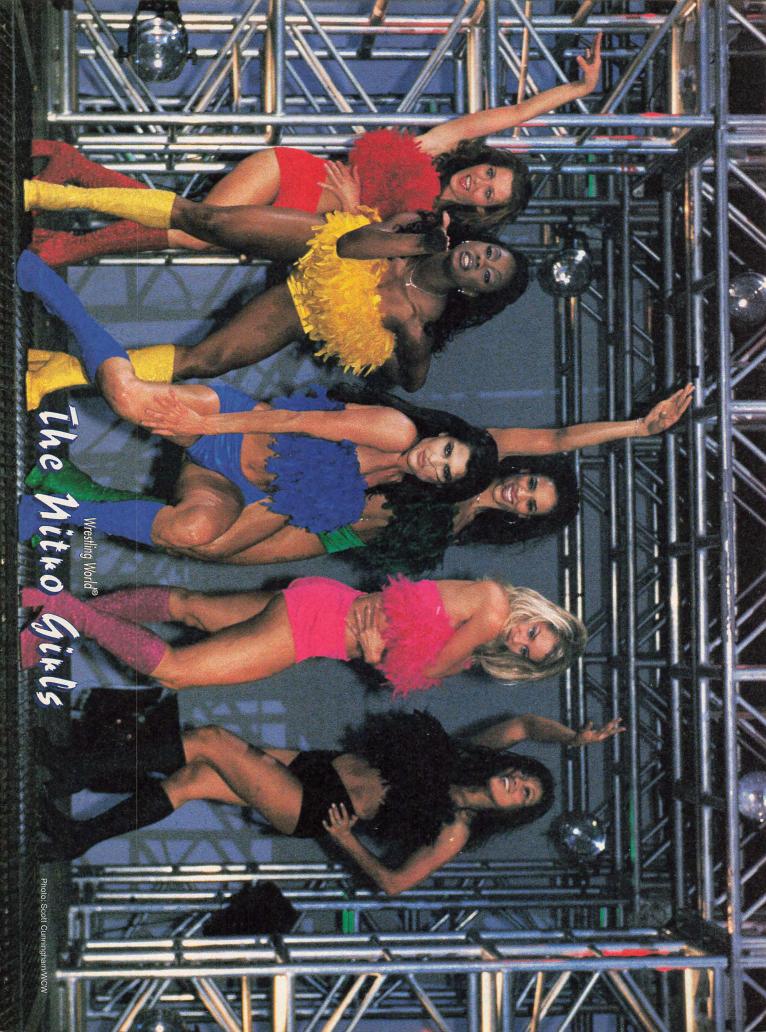
C: Um, I don't know. [laughs] It wasn't throughout the whole performance, it couldn't have been that long. But just the fact of it! I was like, "Why's everyone screaming? Why's everyone yelling?," and as I looked out, I looked down, and I looked on the monitor, and I was like, "Okay," the monitor didn't even have it on there, they just had me after I put it back in, so that was

pretty good. S: My only embarrassment was about three weeks after I started. You know how everybody has their own gimmick? Chaquita goes along with that whole Chaquita banana thing, wears real flashy yellow and gold? Since I'm Syren, I do stuff with the emergency services, like I have a nurse uniform, and I also have a policewoman uniform. When I first started I used to come out sometimes inbetween matches with the cop uniform on, and this pad of tickets, like citations, with a marker, and I would stand up on the runway, and start writing citations. Most eyes in the place are on me 'cause I'm the only person out there, and this one time I tripped, right in the middle of the runway, it was SO embarassing. But at least my hair never caught on fire. WW: And your boobs never fell out.

S: Yeah, my boobs never fell out either. [laughing] Mine aren't quite as big Chaquita's so I don't have

such a hard time keeping them in.★





Continued from page 27

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grandma, so I'm gonna move back east to be with him. WW: I hear you're into kickboxing too. J: I've always liked physical activities. That's why I want to prove to all those who doubt my credibility that I'm in this for the long haul. And I'm honored to do this interview for Wrestling World magazine 'cause

everyone's been taking me as nothing more than a joke with this, and I can't understand why. If it's my background, that's one thing, but I went out there and did what I had to do. I see a lot of girls working at the WCW, and those girls probably weren't even wrestling fans before they got into it, you know what I mean? And I think with wrestling, you really have to enjoy it and understand it to be a part of it. I was always a fan! How I got mixed up with that other stuff, that was one big accident, but I made it work to my advantage. I used it as a stepping stone to move on to other things.

WW: Well, you made a lot of money and became a star because of it. You can't complain there! J: No, I certainly can't complain about that, true. I'm just ready to move on to the next phase of my life, wrestling. I like the fact that I could actually invite my mother to finally come and see me work! She's a New York lawyer, and this is great. She came to the Hammerstein Ballroom shows. I'm proud of that. As far as anyone else making these types of transitions from the old thing, I don't think it could be done. I think it takes a certain type of drive and a certain type of person, and I don't think that that's what that business is filled up with. I'm just very fortunate. WW: It's certainly a big step. Not

many people get to go on to second careers and have great success. J: I think also the fact that I'm still learning to work, that also helps. That in itself says I'm serious. And [ECW president] Paul [E. Heyman] saw that. I went somewhere else looking for a job and they were just like, "Well, no, we can't use you because of your past," and I'm like,



everyone has a past. Is that the worst thing anyone could do? You have ex-criminals on TV! You have people who have done serious things succeeding, and I have nothing against them, ever, hell, half of 'em are my friends! [laughing] WW: Well, the porn industry has a

habit of chewing you up and spitting you out.

J: Right. I left it. I just felt there was something better out there for me and I found it. I found something I really really like to do, and this is it! I didn't like the other things I did. I did, though, like making public appearances and meeting my fans. WW: You didn't like all those movies you made? You didn't like appearing in them?

J: Only a couple of them I did. The other ones I just didn't like dealing

with the mentality, most of all. Being associated with those people, people of that caliber. I just have a problem being associated with drug addicts, with people who have a lot of psychological issues. Leaving that was a big challenge but I love challenges. There was a lot of jealousy, a lot of the girls were jealous. I didn't like that. I do still have some friends in that business, people who were tired and quit, but they're some of the people who have a better head on their shoulders.

WW: Well, there's a lot of Jasmine St. Claire fans out there who wish you'd make another movie. I guess they're just not going to get that movie, are they?

J: It's never gonna happen. Go ahead and buy the old stuff.★

Fabulous Moolah and Mae Young

Continued from page 42

in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. She also wrestled in Japan for what is now All Japan Women's Wrestling and was the most recognizable female wrestler from the 1960s on. But her greatest fame was yet to come.

When Vince McMahon Jr. and his WWF went national in 1984, Moolah was contacted to be a part of it because of her years of service to his father.

As McMahon tried to form public relations bonds with the entertainment and music worlds, he involved Moolah as the ring general versus Wendi Richter and her manager, singer Cyndi Lauper, at the time of the first Wrestlemania. Moolah put Richter over to help establish her as wrestling's young female superstar, and later returned to save the women's wrestling scene once again, after Richter and the WWF parted ways. The celebrity rub by rock star Cyndi Lauper proved highly important as it put the WWF on the map of cool. Moolah would later appear in Lauper's video for the Goonies movie along with Captain Lou Albano, Rowdy Roddy Piper, The Iron Sheik and Classy Freddie Blassie. It was an amazing media time for Moolah and the WWF. Moolah even had a daughter who wrestled for a number of years with former wrestling/country music promoter Buddy Lee.

Mae and Moolah have been inducted and honored by many halls of fame. Both still serve on the board of the Ladies International Wrestling Association. One goal of the association is to establish a badly-needed retirement center for female and male wrestlers. They continue to train both sexes and put on occasional shows in Columbia, South Carolina where Moolah is still queen and even has a street named after her: Moolah Drive!*

Johnny Valentine Needs Everyone's Help

Continued from page 38

husband's fans: Everyone is aware of the mid-'70s plane crash that ended Johnny Valentine's inring career but not his fighting spirit or brilliant wrestling mind. To date, those in the business have never offered any financial aid, and certainly there was no retirement, Keoghs or insurance from our business for the decades of health care needed.

"He's been in constant pain since 1975, and finally needs to ask for help, something he vowed he would never do. Johnny once told me, 'I've lost the use of my legs and I'll be on braces and crutches or in a wheelchair the rest of my life, but everyone in the business seems to think my brain is crippled as well. I've made millions of dollars for the McMahons, for the NWA/WCW and the Crocketts in the Carolinas and promoters around the world. I'm not mad. I'm just sorry they think I can be of no use to the business.'

Johnny is truly a good man with a great heart and an undying love for the business to this day. He's still in training and has trained many young wrestlers on how to be stiff. He's still a booking genius. He can lend his expertise to any wrestling company, since many have lobbied for him to deservedly run a training territory like Memphis; for WWF, WCW or Japan. Johnny's biggest fight since the NWA plane crash has been his constant battle with pain and overwhelming weekly doctor, physical therapy and hospital bills. Financial aid of any kind would be of great help as well as letters and cards. I urge you to contribute whatever you can to this great giant who gave his heart and soul to the business to: Johnny and Sharon Valentine, PO Box 10792, River Oaks, TX 76114.

"The stars of today are getting huge money, health insurance, the whole retirement package but the legends of yesteryear who pioneered the field of wrestling and made it possible for today's stars to earn their trade, received little to nothing."

Thank you in advance.★

CHYNA Continued from page 52

in which Chyna continued her bodyguard-like role. She would constantly interfere in their matches by low-blowing their opponents, giving DX tainted victories. Even though she was bigger than many of the male wrestlers she was attacking, many wouldn't strike her back because she was a woman. This changed when an irate Ken Shamrock suplexed her in front of a national television audience after she cost him a match. Chyna eventually started becoming more actively involved, competing regularly in matches with men. She was way too big to fight with the WWF women so she simply began beating the men! Her first male pinfall victim was Val Venis.

Chyna's first main-event victory came by defeating the very man who gave her a job, Vince McMahon. She tossed him over the top rope in a Battle Royale to determine the combatants for that year's King of the Ring Tournament. She would go on to be defeated by Road Dogg, but, in the process, proved the point that she belonged.

October 17, 1999 was a historic day in the WWF as Chyna defeated Jeff Jarrett at the "No Mercy" Pay Per View. She became the first woman to ever hold the WWF Intercontinental Championship. Jeff Jarrett would leave the WWF after this match. Chyna defended the belt nobly but wasn't able to keep her reign for long, as she lost the belt a little over a month later. (Note: She would go on to win the belt again in August of this year, by again defeating Val Venis.)

Chyna was now a main player in the WWF. She was part of many of the cliques that formed including DX, the Corporation, and even the Corporate Ministry. She served as an on-again off-again valet for Chris Jericho and Eddie Guerrero.

Whether appearing on RAW, handing out awards on MTV, or making appearances at the Democratic National Convention, the popularity of Chyna continues to soar. In addition to numerous commercials, she has appeared on NBC-TV's The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and Third Rock from the Sun. A fitness video will also be released.

Joanie Laurer transformed herself from a shy insecure booksmart girl into a self-assured, talented inspiration to millions of girls around the world. She has achieved heights that she never believed to be possible. And to this day, her star continues to soar. Chyna has definitely earned her title as "Ninth Wonder Of The World."

WRESTLING WORLD

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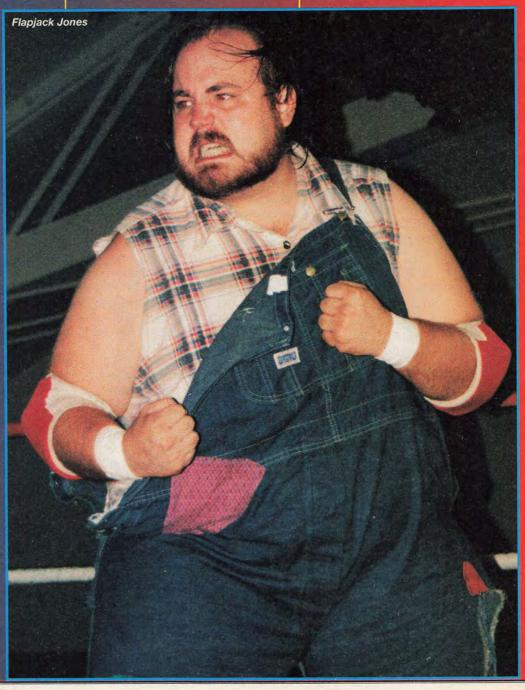
Words & Images by Geoff Dale

rooksville, Ohio--All it took was watching a battered Mick Foley

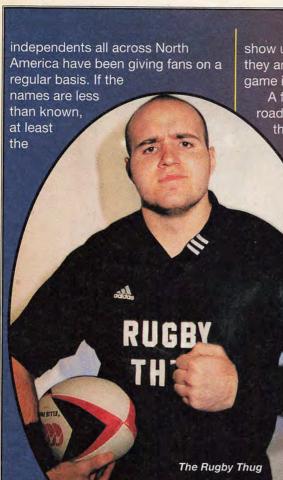
give his heart and soul in the infamous WWF 1998 Hell in the Cell match to convince Mark Stone that he had to get into the wrestling game. And while he still maintains more than a healthy respect for Vince McMahon's colossally popular WWF, he admits he has longterm plans for his more than a year-old FIW (Fire and Ice Wrestling) out of Columbus, Ohio and just maybe the big boys should keep at least one eye on this particular independent.

"I've got a background in radio and some TV and over the past 12 years I've been involved in several entertainment promotions," Stone says while cheering his wrestlers on in Crooksville. "You know, Foley was a hero to me that night and I knew this was it for me. I don't want to sound crazy. I know I can't beat out the WWF but maybe down the road, who knows? We'll start slowly. There are some local TV dates and within five to 10 years I hope to be regularly on the national scene. In 20 years? Maybe tops in the

This particular night in Crooksville's Community Centre, more than 100 cheering fans from five years old all the way up to 85 years old took in the kind of energetic high spirited quality card that



world."



show up, telling them they are the reason the game is strong.

A few hours down the road the night before, the six-year-old Northern

Wrestling Federation (NWF) is demonstrating to a small but vocal

crowd in the St. Mary's Armories just why they've been around for so long. Boasting

of 30 men and four lady grapplers, the Cincinnati-based

the talents





Shark Dorsey, his face full of blood, gives Prodigy a taste of pain in a double-table ladder match.

is top notch night after night. With hot dogs, soda and barbecued beef sandwiches in their hands, the crowd was treated to some pretty damn good action that included an off the ladder/double table move that left some audience members literally gasping for breath.

wrestling

With about 45 wrestlers, announcers and backstage crew. FIW has been steadily building up fan support since the late summer of 1999 for what president Stone calls a "unique" style of wrestling. Heavy on action both in and out of the ring, the storylines are still there but it's the fast paced manoeuvres of the stars that draws them in.

It's a good thing the action is non-stop because Stone readily admits Ohio is fast becoming a hotbed of wrestling with territories springing up in seemingly every other community on the map. And FIW stars are giving more than their share of thanks to the crowds who

Flapjack Jones gets neckburn on the ropes at the hands of Showboat

organization has been packing them in throughout the state and even in Northern Kentucky. Wiping some sweat off his brow, president Roger Russen smiles and tells you he loves everything about the game: the fans, the wrestlers and the kind of independent action that has seen crowds of up to 500 cheering supporters.

"We train our guys and girls and we've got an excellent bunch of wrestlers," he says. "Guys like Prince Justice. Bulldozer and FlapJack Jones just

Regional Update

Sherman Tank

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bring out the kind of enthusiasm I love to see. One of our guys Chris Harris has a development deal going on with the WCW.

"If I'd have to describe our style, I'd say it's a family-oriented show with most of the action staying in the ring. It's aggressive but generally there are is a lot of technical wrestling, with an emphasis on scientific high-fly-

ing moves. We had over 400 fans out to a

show in Fort Wayne,

Indiana. And the girls are real

crowd pleasers too."
That's great news for Sin-D, a three-year veteran of the mat wars who counts Ivory and the two WWF Canadian Chrises (Benoit/Jericho) as her favorites.

"It's fantastic we can show off

our skills and not just roll around
pulling our hair and



says. "We get to show the fans we can wrestle...and we can wrestle hard and aggressively. This has been a dream come true for me. I've loved wrestling since I was three and now I'm doing it."

That night she took a hardearned win over Mercedes.

And how do the fans feel? "I watch wrestling on TV all the time," said one 80-year-old grandmother. But these guys, they're the best. I love it. Great action. Keeps you jumping out of your seat and gives you a reason to scream and shout. I just love it."

That kind of fan support is exactly what motivates independent promoters like Russen and Stone, both of whom eagerly tackle every aspect of the sport from training and announcing to leading the fans in a rousing cheer for the babyfaces. It's in their blood and they're out to prove their brand of wrestling plays second fiddle to no one, not even the big boys. **









